

WARREN
MAGAZINE



CREEPY
#102

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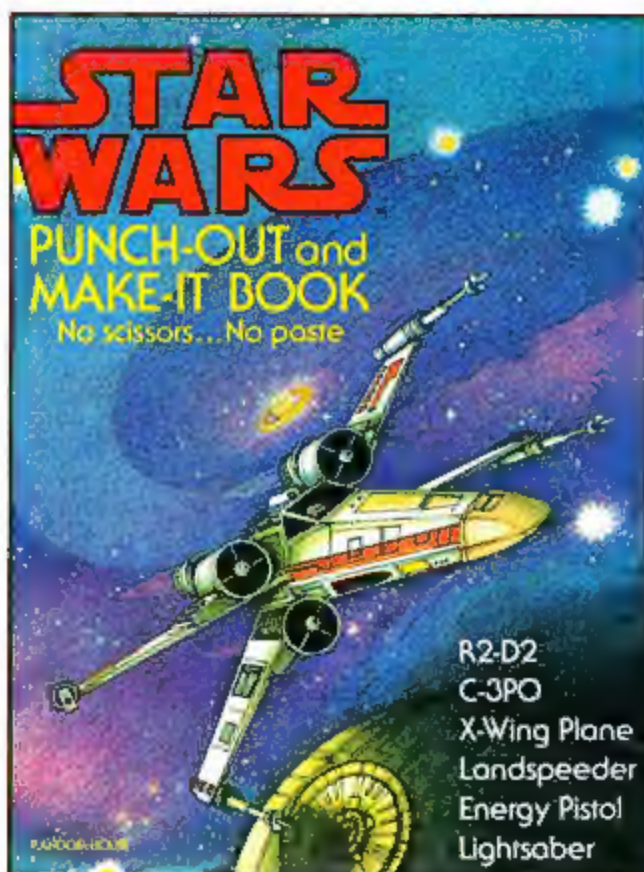
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CREEPY

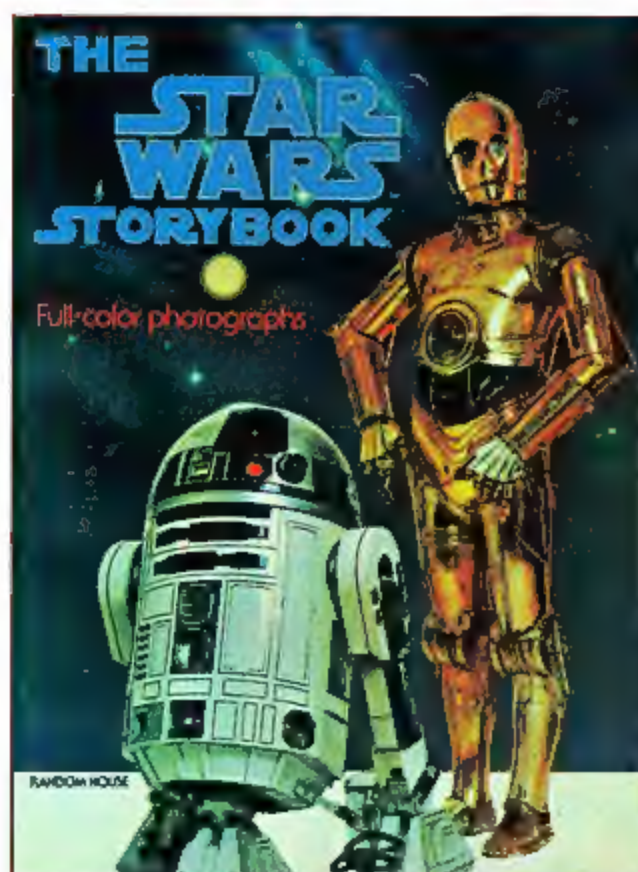
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CREEPY

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OCTOBER 1978

4 DEAR UNCLE CREEPY Why is Joe Collins mad at Kiernan Diamond? Why is it that Uncle Creepy thinks Kiernan is his only fan? Where are the rest of you when Uncle Creepy needs you in this vale of tears? More fan mail!

5 PANTOMINE AT SEA Well, creep! Now that you have removed your mask, we will remove our's too! Trust us, you are on the verge of a better life! What a curious ending for a Hollywood monster flick. Too bad it was real!

15 THE COMIC BOOKS The copyright law Congress passed last January 1 has thrown the comic book industry into turmoil. Everyone seems to be at each others throats—publishers artists, writers. What kind of folly is this?

16 ALMOST SHANGRI-LA Somewhere in the high Himalayas there exists a place lost to the world of man where life assumes a rhythm of its own and the minds images wander. To some people this is heaven and to others it's hell!

28 THING in the FOREST'S HEART The sun sets tinging the world in blood, trapping one who spilled blood deep in the silent depths of a haunted forest. Evil spirits are not so different from the men they once were!

35 KILLER CLAW Wiscasset, Maine! Tiny fishing villages dot the New England coast, make their living from the bountiful sea. But just a little too bountiful for Wiscasset. It brought forth a huge 25' lobster, and it was very pregnant!

45 NIGHT EYES Darling Elaine, fickle Elaine sent her love to endure the hell of the African jungle to satisfy an obstinate father. Stalked by death & driven by love to superhuman effort, only to find loves' shadow fleeting!

55 FAIR PREY MMMMM! Everyone thought it was the blowing of the wind in the dense tropical undergrowth. One by one everyone on a small island research staton began to die! Not a drop of blood was left in their bodies!

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Dear Uncle Creepy,

CREEPY CREATES A DISASTERS SUCCESS!

A terrific and slimey cover by **Bob Larkin** led off **CREEPY** #100. That's two sensational covers in a row. **CREEPY** #99's Disasters cover was also incredible!

"Winner Take All" was the number 1 winner of the issue. **Luis Bermejo** and **Len Wein** put together a really exciting story!

It was good to see **Russ Heath** back in "Hell Hound." He hasn't done anything new for **CREEPY** since #83.

I'm glad to see that **Warren** went back to the cemetery and dug up some old fiends like **Wein**, **Aurleon**, **Heath** and **Pablo Marcos**. They, particularly, did a great job on the issue.

JOHN OJEDA
West New York, N.J.

"SSSHHH" was a great looking story by **Joe Vaultz**. Really good airbrush work.

BILL BAXTER
Tampa, Fla.

CREEPY #94 was great! "Trilby & Star Rovers" and "Bongo and Me" were super stories.

I hope other **CREEPY** mags have stories as good.

KIM TRIBLE
Poplarville, Miss.

The unexcelled high point of **CREEPY** #99 was "An Old Game." It utilized a most fascinating concept. It looked at what progress has done to our old traditions and values.

Still, in all, the issue was rather poor. I only enjoyed three out of six stories. "Brothers," "A Case of Overkill" and "One Hell of a War" ranged from below par to terrible. That's minus-2 for **Bill DuBay**!

I find the special issues a bit mind-numbing. They simply lack the exciting variety "normal" issues have. They would be better if they were a bit less common. Otherwise keep up the good work!

DAVID ZAKSS
Toronto, Canada

Bob Larkin's cover for **CREEPY** #99 wasn't a **CREEPY** cover. I know and recognize his talents, but his style isn't meant for **CREEPY**. His art stuns the onlooker with colors and action!

I think I speak for most of the readers when I say that I prefer the more subtle covers of **Ken Kelly**, **Sanjullian**, **Enrich** and even **Frazetta** reprints. In the future, stick to covers by painters who rely on subtlety!

DAVID BUYINGTON
Powassan, Ontario

"One Hell of a War" was a good story but the art was not **Leo Duranona's** best! It was confused and I had to read one of the pages several times to discover that the moon had been destroyed by the blast from the alien ships.

Duranona's work is almost always my favorite art but this story just didn't make it. I think he is better on non-science fiction subjects.

FRANK JONES
Burlington, Vt.

The art by **Joe Ortiz** on the story "Brothers" in issue #99 was some of the best he's done in a long while. The little girl was rendered with just the right touch of spunky sweetness, while the aliens had exactly the correct amount of good humored malice.

Of course **Ortiz** had a good **Bill DuBay** script to work from and that may have made all the difference.

CHRIS WILLIAMS
Los Angeles, Calif.

"A Slight Case of Overkill" had a fine, ironic ending. It's amusing to think of the boy and the old man plotting to become the Great Enemy of what was left of humanity... causing "mankind" to finally unite against them.

DAVID NELSON
Spokane, Wash.

Come on, **Brancatelli**. Lay off us (fans) and them (KISS). Your articles on them just didn't make any sense.

If kids didn't like them, KISS wouldn't exist today. Let us do what we want... fantasize... without making it such a crime. Any KISS fan will tell you that they represent more than paint and leather.

Who cares about their musical talent. If all you want is good music, there are lots of bands you can listen to. Just keep from making such a fuss over KISS. If they don't care about their fans, I'd rather hear it from them, not from **Brancatelli**.

JANINE BRYAN
Tucson, Ariz.

"An Old Game" was really spectacular. Good story by **Nicola Cuti** with a really adult feeling to it. Fabulous art by **Moreno Casares**... a neophyte from whom I've already come to expect great things.

ALEX RUDNOV
New York, N.Y.

The cover on **CREEPY** #99 was excellent. And the art work on "SSSHHH" was good too! So congratulations to **Bob Larkin** and **Joe Vaultz**!

As far as the age of your characters goes, I would like to see more young people on your pages. Most of the people who read this magazine are very young, so let's have some more of us!

ROLAND PETTY
Oklahoma City, Ok.

I loved **CREEPY** #97, the All-Monster special! It was great! I especially liked "Momma Is a Vampire" and "The Snail that Ate Tokyo". The "Wax Werewolf" wasn't bad either! I hope you can print more stories like these in future issues. You guys are doing a great job!

SCOTT STINE
Lake Stevens, W. Va.

You are probably waiting for me to say that **CREEPY** #99 was an earth shattering disaster. It wasn't and I won't! In fact, it was one of the better issues of recent months. Not one story in there could be called a bomb, and a couple were truly exceptional.

The best two tales were "An Old Game" and "There Shall Come A Great Darkness!"

The former, while not really an original idea, is the best story **Nick Cuti** has done for **Warren** to date. A surprising change from his usual cardboard characters and klutzy dialogue.

But fine as it was it was far overshadowed by **Bob Toomey's** piece. You have no idea how refreshing it is to read a story that doesn't depend on a zinger at the end. How I wish we could have more! These two stories alone were worth the price.

Next I would rank "A Slight Case of Overkill". I probably would have found it more amusing if there hadn't been so many ape stories recently. In the short run, one can only stand so much simian silliness. Still **Bill DuBay's** script was sufficiently different to raise it out of the ordinary.

The rest of the issue, was of lesser stuff, however. The stories weren't bad. In fact, they were moderately good. But they all had the same basic fault—they depended on surprise endings.

All in all, a good issue!
BRIAN CADEN
Cincinnati, Oh.

DEAR UNCLE
Creepy,
C/O WARREN
PUBLISHING CO.
145 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016

SOMEBODY TELL OUR \$450,000 GREEN FIEND THAT THIS IS THE FINAL COSTUME FITTING. THE STUDIO ABSOLUTELY REFUSES TO APPROVE ANY MORE OF HIS COSTLY MODIFICATIONS!

RELAX, TEDDY. HE SAYS HE'S FINALLY HAPPY WITH THE SUIT NOW! BUT DON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR IT... SEE FOR YOURSELF!

REMEMBER, RORY... ONCE THE HEADPIECE IS LOCKED IN PLACE IT CAN'T BE REMOVED WITHOUT BREAKING YOUR OXYGEN LINE!

DON'T WORRY! I DON'T PLAN ON SHOWING ANY OF THOSE FISH MY REAL FACE!

THAT GOES FOR THE AUDIENCE TOO! RORY WANTS TO STILL HAVE A CAREER LEFT AFTER THIS TURKEY IS RELEASED!

PANTOMIME AT SEA

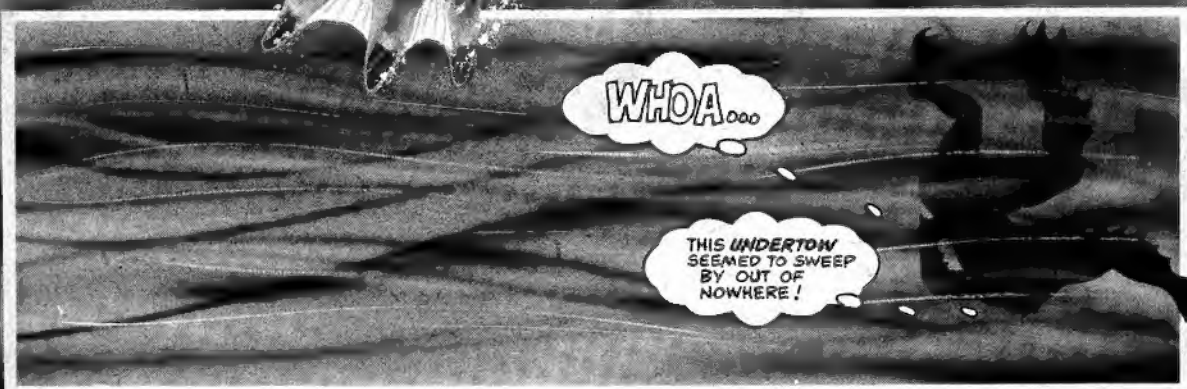
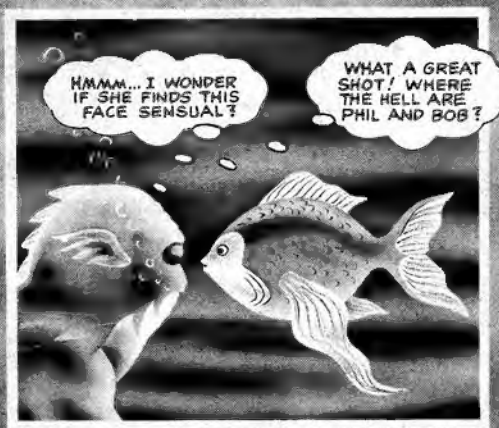
OUTSTANDING!

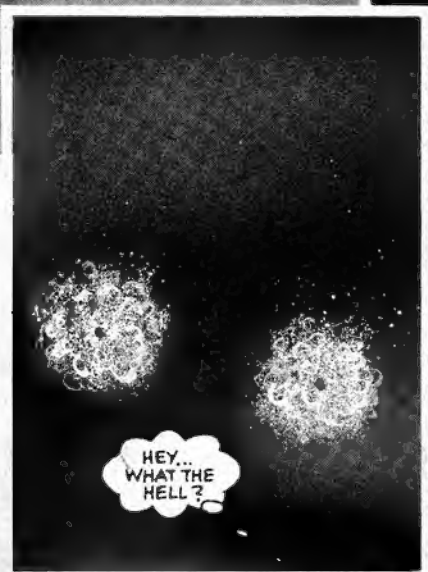
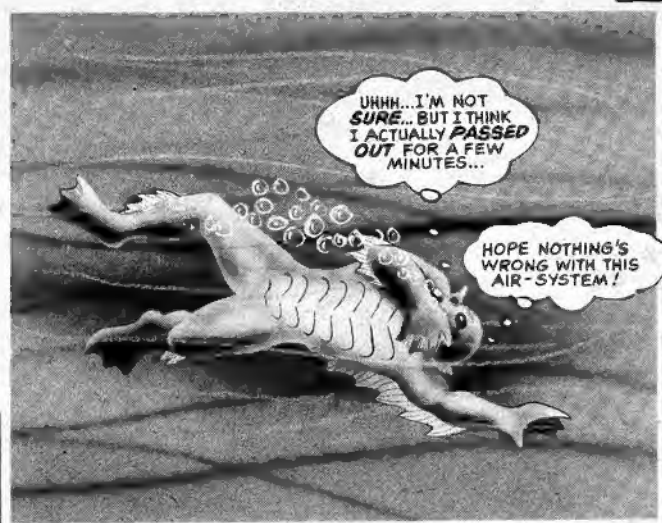
HE DOESN'T EVEN LOOK HUMAN ANYMORE!


DON'T TRY TO TALK, RORY... JUST KEEP BREATHING EVENLY... GET YOURSELF AC-CUSTOMED TO THE OXYGEN!

GENTLEMEN... LET'S NOT PAT OURSELVES ON THE BACK YET... THE REAL TEST IS STILL TO COME!

YEAH! IT'S ABOUT TIME TO THROW OUR STAR OVERBOARD!

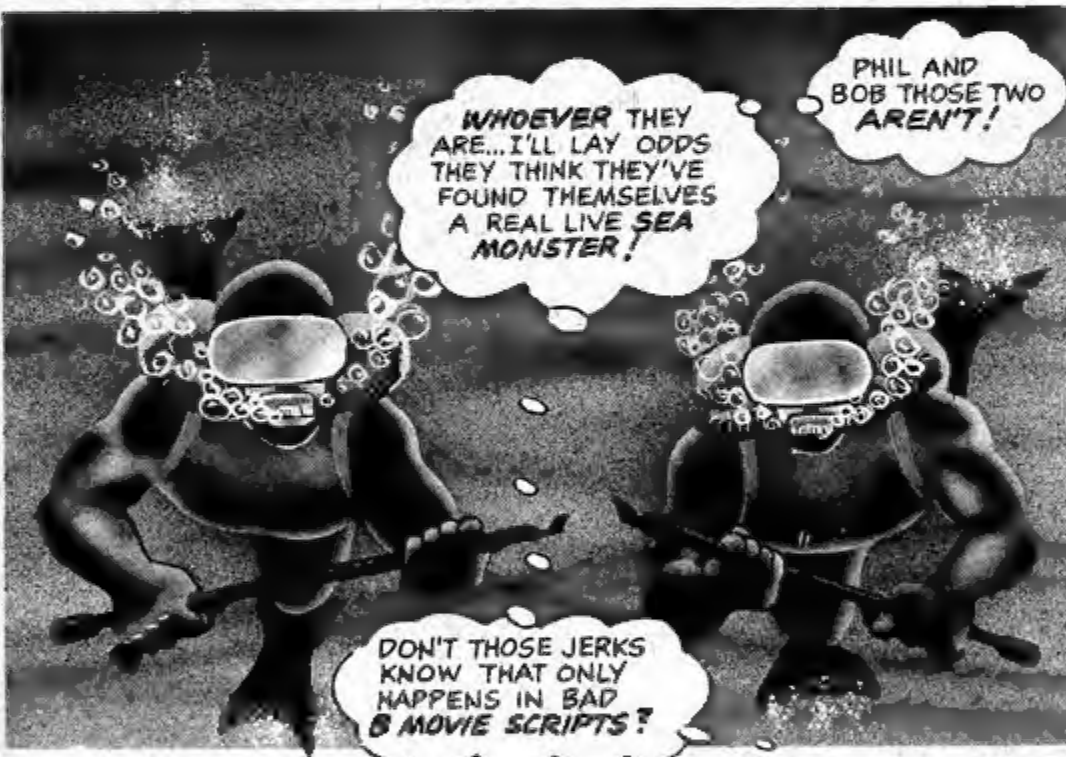






THOSE CREEPS
HAVE **SPEARGUNS**
AND THEY'RE USING
ME FOR A
TARGET!

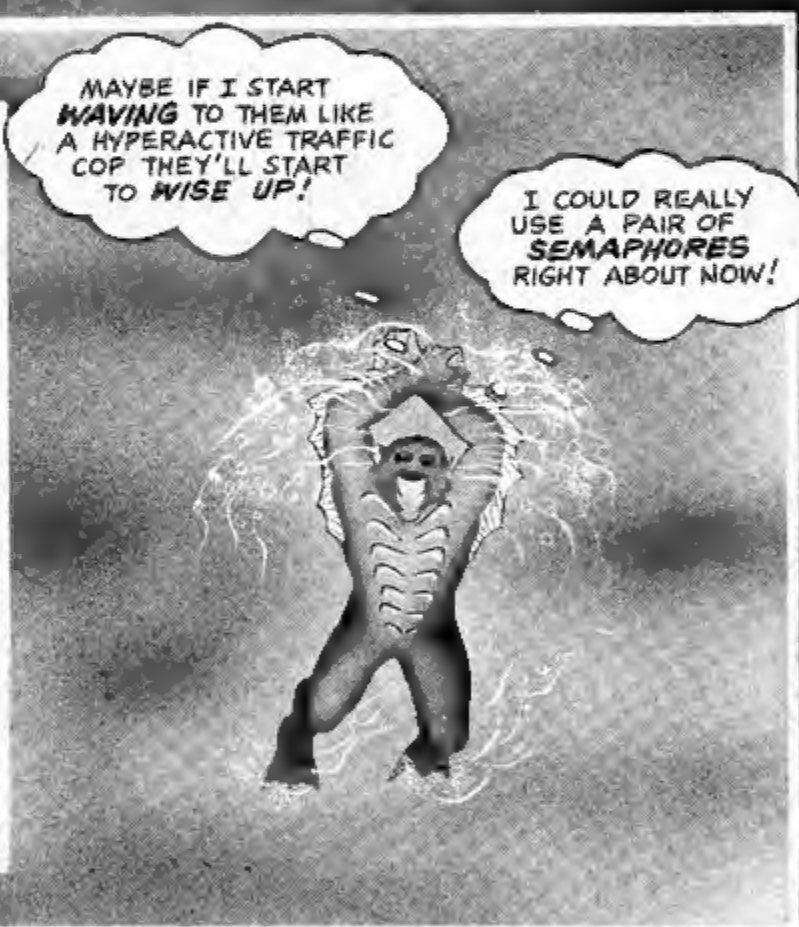
DAMN
THAT WAS
CLOSE!



WHOEVER THEY
ARE... I'LL LAY ODDS
THEY THINK THEY'VE
FOUND THEMSELVES
A REAL LIVE **SEA**
MONSTER!

PHIL AND
BOB THOSE TWO
AREN'T!

DON'T THOSE JERKS
KNOW THAT ONLY
HAPPENS IN BAD
B MOVIE SCRIPTS?




MAYBE IF I START
WAVING TO THEM LIKE
A HYPERACTIVE TRAFFIC
COP THEY'LL START
TO WISE UP!

I COULD REALLY
USE A PAIR OF
SEMAPHORES
RIGHT ABOUT NOW!



NO, YOU PINHEADS!
THAT WASN'T A
TANTRUM I WAS
HAVING!

SPLITTING UP... THEY
MUST THINK I'M
GETTING READY TO
ATTACK OR
SOMETHING!



IT'S THE
FRIGGING
FIEND-SUIT!

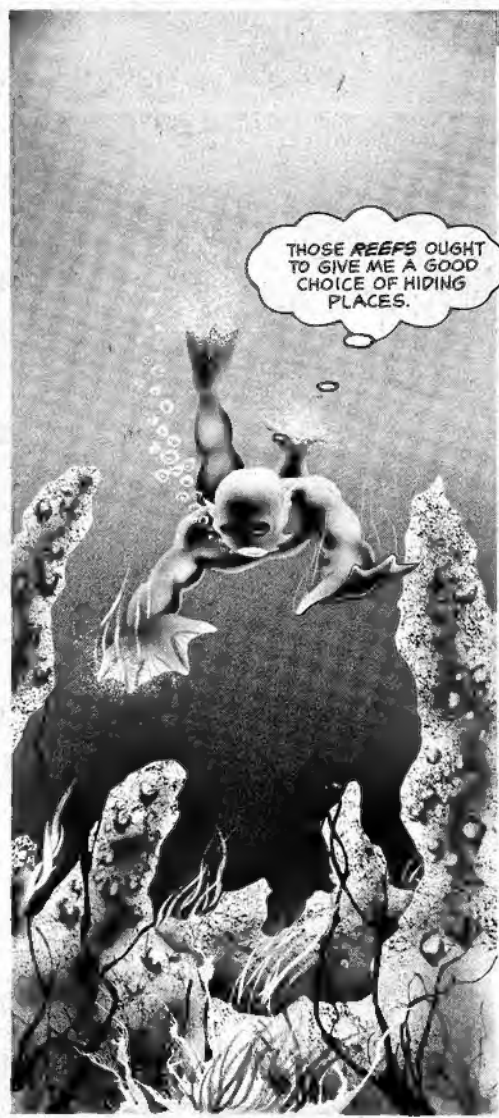
I CAN SEE NOW
THEY'RE NOT GONNA
LET UP TILL I LET THEM
GET A LOOK AT THE
REAL ME!



DAMN! I FORGOT ABOUT THE OXYGEN LINE! IF I BREAK IT AT THIS STAGE, I'D NEVER MAKE IT TO THE SURFACE ALIVE!



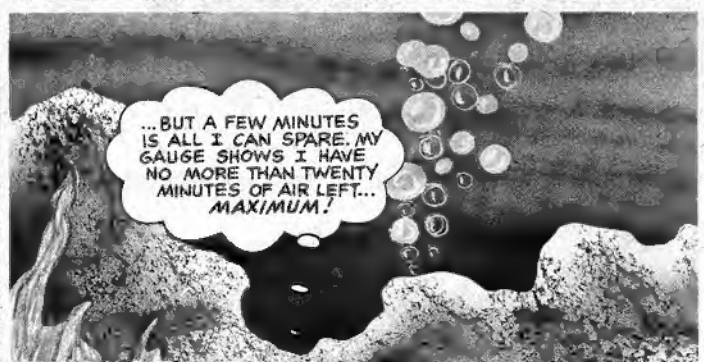
NEED TIME TO THINK!



THOSE REEFS OUGHT TO GIVE ME A GOOD CHOICE OF HIDING PLACES.



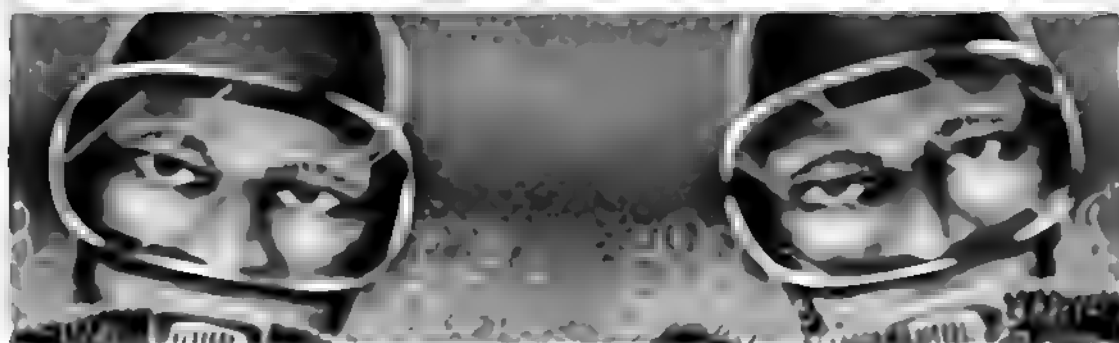
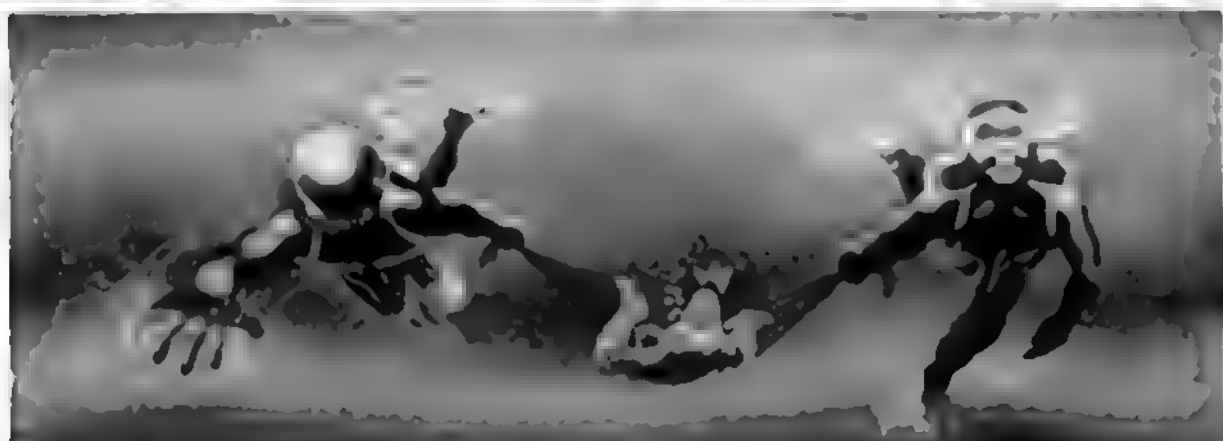
MAYBE IF I LIE LOW FOR A FEW MINUTES THOSE SPEAR-HAPPY SCUBA DIVERS WILL MOVE ON...



...BUT A FEW MINUTES IS ALL I CAN SPARE. MY GAUGE SHOWS I HAVE NO MORE THAN TWENTY MINUTES OF AIR LEFT... MAXIMUM!









UHHH WHATEVER
THEY SHOT INTO ME
COULD'VE PUT A
RHINO TO SLEEP!

BUT BY NOW I'M
SURE THEY'VE EX-
AMINED ME CLOSE
ENOUGH TO...

OH, NO!
THE MASK!
I'M STILL
WEARING
THE SUIT!

SOON AS THE OXYGEN
LINE BREAKS THEY'LL
SEE MY REAL FACE
AND PULL ME OUT OF
HERE WITH A STREAM
OF APOLOGIES!

THEY'VE PUT ME
IN SOME SORT OF
EXHIBITION
TANK!

THESE IDIOTS STILL
THINK THEY'VE CAUGHT
THEMSELVES A REAL
LIVE SEA MONSTER!

NOW I CAN SHOW
THEM WHAT THEY
REALLY HAVE IN
THEIR TANK!





GENTLEMEN MEET
RORY BASILLA, THE
FORMER STUNT MAN AND
STRUGGLING ACTOR WHO
HAS MADE HIS FIRST
AND LAST **MONSTER**
MOVIE!



.GLUB.
.GLUB.



WHAT THE HELL
IS THE **MATTER**
WITH THEM!
... GLUB...

THEY CAN SEE
WHO I AM NOW.
THEY CAN SEE I'M
HOLDING MY
BREATH!

GLUB
LET ME OUT
OF HERE
DAMNIT!



VERY WELL, HUMAN
SINCE YOU HAVE
FINALLY DECIDED
TO REMOVE YOUR
MASK



WE SHALL
DO THE SAME!





TRUST US, HUMAN
YOU ARE ON THE
THRESHOLD OF A
BETTER LIFE!

IF IT **PLEASES**
YOU.. WE WILL EVEN
ALLOW YOU TO RETAIN
YOUR CURIOUS
GREEN SUIT!

BZZ

THE COMIC BOOKS

by Joe Brancatelli

WHAT HATH CONGRESS WROUGHT?

Article I of the Constitution grants Congress the right to dictate the nation's copyright laws. For the better part of two centuries, Congress has indeed been dictating, but only very slowly and only very badly. After years of patching and extending a decades-old omnibus copyright code, Congress finally passed a completely new statute which became effective last January 1.

Not surprisingly, our spanking new copyright law isn't working very well.

Publishers, who seemed to have the upper-hand under the old law, and creators, who are nominally the benefactors under the new one, have already been at each others' throats. Always combative in the past, publishers, writers and artists have been positively ferocious in negotiations this year. Copyright hassles between freelance talent and publishers have been especially gruesome and a flurry of harsh words, shoot-from-the-hip contracts and nasty lawsuits have been the inevitable result.

None of this has escaped the comic-book industry, of course. As usual, they've managed to make more of a mess of the situation than any other segment of the American media. Part of the industry's problem, of course, is the fact that comic books are written and drawn almost exclusively by free-lance talent. Part of the problem is that creators and publishers never quite acknowledged the existence of the old copyright law. And part of the problem is that comic-book companies have always been largely minor-league thinkers.

Unfortunately, of course, most of the problem the industry is having with this admittedly diffi-



cult set of new laws is directly attributable to the inane, get-it-while-you-can, nickel-and-dime mentality that has pervaded the business ever since the days when comics actually cost nickels and dimes.

The newest copyright hassle began early in the spring when Marvel decided it needed a written agreement between itself and the freelancers it hires to produce comics. Marvel's legal staff went to work.

In the past, Marvel had been returning most of the original artwork but buying most available North American, foreign and reprint rights under a legally questionable "agreement" rubber-stamped on the back of its payment checks. Attempting to come up with a more substantial arrangement (read: one that would stand up in court), Marvel worked up a one-page, single-spaced agreement. Rather than simply codifying what it was already doing, however, Marvel's new agreement, which was presented to all freelancers, tried to seize absolute, total and dictatorial control.

It stated, in part, that the artist or writer "grants to Marvel forever all rights of any kind and nature in and to the work." Moreover, it said, Marvel had "the right to use" the creator's name to promote the product. The agreement also stipulated the creator gave Marvel "exclusive copyright proprietorship" and "all rights of ownership." Just for good measure,

Marvel's agreement demanded the creator "not . . . contest Marvel's exclusive, complete and unrestricted ownership in and to the work."

Led by Neal Adams, the closest the comic-book industry will get to Don Quixote, several freelancers rebelled. But they didn't try to simply amend and equalize the Marvel proposal. Instead they seized the opportunity to create the "Comic Book Creators Guild," propose a radical new pay scale and suggest the Guild be the "sole bargaining agent for the free-lance talent working in the comic-book field."

In response to Marvel's overly-restrictive agreement, Adams and cadre came up with some overly-idealistic counter-demands:

- Marvel would buy first North American rights only. Buying first foreign rights would cost an additional 25 percent. Reprint rights would cost an additional 50 percent.

- All artwork remained the property of "the talent."

- While the creator agreed to allow Marvel to use his name and likeness for promotion, he could withdraw the right "for good cause" upon 30 days notice.

- "All disputes and controversies of every kind" would be determined by arbitration.

The new payment scale stipulated a \$300-a-page artwork rate, a \$100-a-page script rate, a \$40-a-page lettering rate and a \$70-a-page coloring rate. Al-

though present rates vary, Marvel is now paying about a \$100 a page for artwork and about \$20-\$25 a page for stories.

The ramifications of the Marvel and "Guild" proposals are massive and could take pages of this magazine—pages I do not have.

Of paramount importance in the matter, however, is whether the comic-book industry can survive this upheaval, regardless of the agreement eventually adopted. Will the companies agree to a 300-400 percent rate rise in an already marginal industry? Who really owns the artwork, especially material depicting characters already owned by the company? Who owns the rights to a story or artwork using a character owned by a comic-book company? Is it the company? The writer? The penciler? The inker? Is the "guild" of freelancers really workable? Will the companies circumvent the matter by simply hiring staff artists and writers and ignoring freelancers? Would a set rate of payment be unfair to more talented creators by offering them no more compensation than less talented artisans? Will the companies consent to buying stories and artwork about a character owned by an individual rather than demanding they own the character as well? How is the creator of a character compensated fairly if the company owns the character he created and then merchandises it to other media? Do you trust Neal Adams and Jenette Kahn and Stan Lee to help set precedent in a matter as complicated as copyright law?

Interesting indeed. And perhaps bound to decide the fate of comic books as we know them for decades to come. Stay tuned, friends.

Almost Shangri-la

I WAS HAVING A SCOTCH AND SODA IN A BAR IN THAT LITTLE TOWN OF HOKAWAN NESTLED AT THE FOOT OF THE TOWERING HIMALAYAS WHEN I FIRST SAW THE STRANGER. HE WAS SEATED ALL ALONE AT THE FAR END OF THE ESTABLISHMENT, A DARK, BROODING LOOKING GENTLEMAN. TWO BOTTLES OF BOURBON SAT BEFORE HIM ON THE OAK TABLE, ONE FULL, ONE HALF EMPTY. AT THE RATE HE WAS DRINKING, HE WOULD SOON HAVE TO ORDER YET ANOTHER BOTTLE.

AS FOR MYSELF, I'M NOT A MAN WHO ENJOYS DRINKING ALONE. THE SIGHT OF ANOTHER ENGLISHMAN WAS A WELCOME RELIEF TO ME IN THAT DESOLATE REGION. SO, PICKING UP MY OWN DRINK AND PUSHING UP FROM THE BAR...

GOOD EVENING!
THE NAME'S LAWRENCE
BANKS. I SAY IT'S
A COLD, LONELY NIGHT TO
BE DRINKING ALL ALONE.
MAY I JOIN YOU?...




IF YOU LIKE,
I'M HARRY CLARK
SEAT YOURSELF
BANKS.

THANK YOU! I'D
OFFER TO BUY YOU
A DRINK BUT YOU SEEM
WELL SUPPLIED!



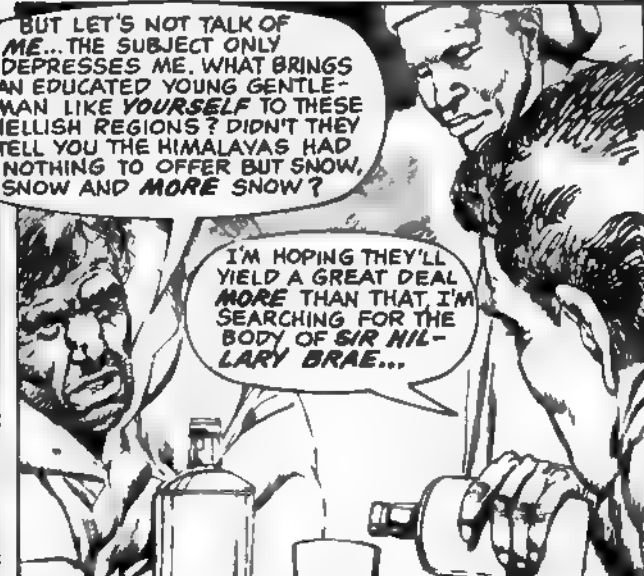
IF IT'S COMPANIONSHIP
AND SCINTILLATING
CONVERSATION YOU
SEEK, SIR YOU'D BEST
LOOK ELSEWHERE.

I SHALL SOON
BE TO SATURATED
TO GIVE A GOOD
IMITATION OF A
MUMBLE...



MAY I VENTURE TO GUESS THAT A *WOMAN* FIGURES SOMEWHERE IN YOUR NEED FOR OBLIVION?

YOU MAY... BUT YOU'D BE *WRONG*. I HAVEN'T HAD THE TIME IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS TO THINK OF SUCH LUXURIES.



BUT LET'S NOT TALK OF *ME*... THE SUBJECT ONLY DEPRESSES ME. WHAT BRINGS AN EDUCATED YOUNG GENTLEMAN LIKE *YOURSELF* TO THESE HELLISH REGIONS? DIDN'T THEY TELL YOU THE HIMALAYAS HAD NOTHING TO OFFER BUT SNOW, SNOW AND *MORE SNOW*?


I'M HOPING THEY'LL YIELD A GREAT DEAL *MORE* THAN THAT I'M SEARCHING FOR THE BODY OF *SIR HILLARY BRAE*...

I CAN YET SEE THE LOOK OF *SHOCK AND HORROR* ON THAT DARK FACE AT MENTION OF *SIR HILLARY'S NAME*... HIS EYE'S BECAME TWIN COALS OF *BLAZING LIGHT* THAT SEEMED DETERMINED TO BURN INTO MY BRAIN... HIS MOUTH DROPPED OPEN TO REVEAL ROWS OF YELLOW-ED TEETH...




SIR HILLARY BRAE?

WHY, YES... YOU *MUST* HAVE HEARD OF HIM, HE'S THE MOST ACCLAIMED *EXPLORER* OF THE CENTURY HE AND HIS PARTNER *RANDOLF GRIMES* DISAPPEARED IN THIS REGION OVER TWO YEARS AGO.




MINE IS ONLY *ONE* OF SEVERAL SEARCH PARTIES OUT TO FIND HIM. *BRAE* WAS AN IMPORTANT MAN AND AS SUCH DESERVES A DECENT FUNERAL.



LISTEN TO ME, BANKS! DO YOU AND YOUR FELLOW CLIMBERS A *GREAT FAVOR* AND GIVE *UP* THIS SEARCH! YOU'LL NEVER FIND *BRAE*! NOT *NOW*! NO ONE WILL! IT'S *USELESS*!! DO YOU HEAR ME? *USELESS*!!

STEADY THERE, OLD MAN...



CALM YOURSELF... HERE, HAVE ANOTHER DRINK, WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? DID YOU *KNOW* *SIR HILLARY*?

KNOW... *SIR HILLARY*? ...NO... NOT *HIM*...

BUT *GRIMES* ...I MET *GRIMES* ONCE.



RANDOLF GRIMES?
WITHIN THE LAST TWO
YEARS? BUT THIS IS
FABULOUS NEWS!
WHERE IS HE? IS
HE WELL?

HE... HE IS ALIVE
AS FAR AS I KNOW...
BUT WELL?... I
SUPPOSE THAT DEPENDS
ON YOUR DEFINITION.

I SAY, SIR,
ARE YOU BEING
DELIBERATELY
VAGUE?



YES, DAMMIT, I AM!
HOW ELSE CAN I CON-
CEAL FROM YOU A
HORROR SO INSIDIOUS
I HAVE TO REMAIN
PERPETUALLY DRUNK
TO BEAR EVEN THE
MEMORY OF IT!!

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE
RAVING ABOUT MY GOOD MAN,
BUT IF YOU HAVE SOME KNOW-
LEDGE OF RANDOLF GRIMES'
WHEREABOUTS...

I DEMAND
YOU REVEAL
IT TO ME AT
ONCE!



VERY WELL...
VERY WELL...WHAT
DOES IT MATTER?
YOU WON'T BELIEVE
ME ANYWAY...AND
PERHAPS THAT'S
JUST AS WELL...

BUT BEFORE I BEGIN,
ANOTHER OF THESE, I
BEG YOU...NEARLY ALL
MY CASH IS GONE...
WILL YOU OBLIGE ME?
I PROMISE YOU WON'T
BE BORED...

WAITER!

AS YOU WISH...



MY STORY BEGINS ONE YEAR
AGO THIS MONTH. LIKE YOU I
CAME TO THE GOD-FORSAKEN
REGION IN SEARCH OF SIR
HILLARY BRAE'S CORPSE AND
THE FAME THAT WOULD
AWAIT ITS DISCOVERY.

WHAT I FOUND
WAS CONSIDERABLY
LESS THAN FAME
AND CONSIDERABLY
MORE THAN I EVER
IMAGINED OR
BARGAINED FOR...

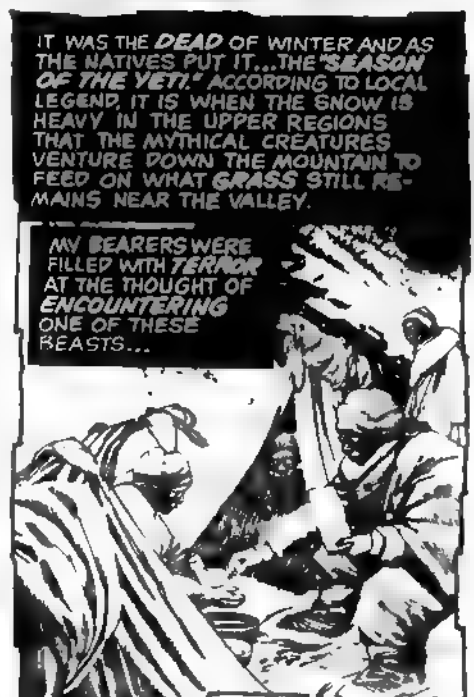


BRAE, AS YOU KNOW, WAS LAST
SEEN ON THE EASTERN SLOPES
OF MOUNT CLINION BUT AS NO
RESCUE PARTY HAD AS YET
SPOTTED HIM THERE I CHOSE
THE WESTERN BANK HOPING
THAT BRAE MAY HAVE CHANGED
HIS CLIMBING TACTICS MID-
WAY UP THE MOUNTAIN...



MY PARTY WAS SMALL. IT WAS
DIFFICULT FINDING GOOD ENGLISH-
MEN... OR ANY ENGLISHMEN...
FOR SO DANGEROUS A JOURNEY.
I HAD TO DEPEND ENTIRELY
ON THE LOCAL BEARERS.

THEY MAKE EXCELLENT CLIMB-
ERS. MANY OF THEM, BUT ONE IS CON-
STANTLY HAVING TO DEAL WITH
THEIR SUPERSTITIOUS GIBBER.



IT WAS THE DEAD OF WINTER AND AS
THE NATIVES PUT IT...THE "SEASON
OF THE YETI." ACCORDING TO LOCAL
LEGEND, IT IS WHEN THE SNOW IS
HEAVY IN THE UPPER REGIONS
THAT THE MYTHICAL CREATURES
VENTURE DOWN THE MOUNTAIN TO
FEED ON WHAT GRASS STILL RE-
MAINS NEAR THE VALLEY.

MY BEARERS WERE
FILLED WITH TERROR
AT THE THOUGHT OF
ENCOUNTERING
ONE OF THESE
BEASTS...

TOWARD MIDNIGHT OF THE THIRD EVENING, I WAS AWAKENED BY THE SENSATION THAT I WAS NOT ALONE IN MY TENT. I HAVE BEEN CALLED A MAN OF EXCEPTIONAL BRAVERY YET AT THAT MOMENT I KNEW A NUMBING FEAR...

...WHO...
WHO
IS IT?

PLEASE...I...I HEARD THE
HISS OF YOUR COLEMAN LANTERN
...IF I COULD BUT WARM
MYSELF A MOMENT...

WHO ARE YOU?
YOU SOUND ENGLISH.
ARE YOU SEPARATED
FROM YOUR PARTY?

SEPARATED...YES...
PERMANENTLY SEPAR-
ATED... MY NAME IS
GRIMES... I WAS
CLIMBING WITH SIR
HILLARY BRAE...

GRIMES! RANDOLF GRIMES?
DEAR GOD, MAN, HALF THE
WORLD'S BEEN LOOKING FOR
YOU! ARE YOU WELL? WHERE
IS SIR HILLARY? HERE, LET
ME GET A LOOK AT YOU!

DON'T
TOUCH THE
LANTERN!

PLEASE... LEAVE IT
WHERE IT IS... AND SEAT
YOURSELF... I SHAN'T
STAY... I ONLY WANTED
TO FEEL THE HEAT
AGAIN... IT'S BEEN
SO LONG...

SHAN'T STAY? BUT
WHERE ARE YOU OFF
TO? WE'RE MILES
FROM CIVILIZATION.
I SAY, ARE YOU
QUITE ALL RIGHT?
WHERE IS SIR
HILLARY?

SIR HILLARY IS DEAD...
AT LEAST THE SIR HILLARY
THE WORLD KNEW... I MY-
SELF AM HALF DEAD... DOOM-
ED TO WANDER THESE FRIGID
WASTES ENDLESSLY... UNABLE
EITHER TO LEAVE THEM OR
LIVE WITHOUT AGONY...
AMONG THEM.

DEAR GOD, MAN, YOU'RE
DELIRIOUS! LET ME ATTEND
YOU, I BEG OF YOU! LET
ME SEE YOUR FACE...

NO... 'TIS A SIGHT YOU'LL LIVE
A SANER LIFE WITHOUT. I AM NOT
AS OTHER MEN. I HAVE WALKED
UPON SACRED GROUND AND
HAVE TURNED MY BACK ON IT.
I MUST NOW SPEND THE REST
OF MY DAYS HALF IN THE WORLD
OF MAN AND HALF OUT... I AM
DAMNED... EVEN AS SIR HILLARY
IS BLESSED...

PLEASE, LET ME
GET YOU TO A
PHYSICIAN...

NO PHYSICIAN CAN HELP ME
NOW IF YOU WANT TO SUCCOR
ME, LET ME REMAIN A MOMENT
LONGER BY THIS GLORIOUS
HEAT... I HAVE WALKED THROUGH
AN AGONY OF COLD THE LIKES
OF WHICH YOU'VE SCARCELY
DREAMED!

IF YOU MUST KNOW,
I SHALL TELL YOU OF
THE FATE OF SIR HILL-
ARY BRAE... THOUGH
KNOWING IS NOT
NECESSARILY
BELIEVING...

SIR HILLARY AND I SET OUT ONE YEAR AGO ON THE NORTH SLOPE OF **MOUNT CLINION** IN HOPES OF ESTABLISHING A NEW CLIMBING RECORD. IT WAS A **DOOMED** JOURNEY FROM THE BEGINNING.

HARDLY HAD WE PITCHED OUR FIRST EN-CAMPMENT WHEN THE **BEARERS** STARTED IN WITH THEIR BEASTLY **SUPERSTITIONS...**



"**YETI!**" "**YETI!**" THE WORD PASSED OMINOUSLY THROUGH THE CAMP IN FRIGHTENED WHISPERS. WE WERE... ACCORDING TO THE **FRANTIC** NATIVES. IN THE VICINITY OF **SACRED SOIL...** THOUGH HOW THEY DETERMINED THAT IN THE MILES OF ENDLESS SNOW IS BEYOND ME.

NEVERTHELESS, SIR HILLARY AND I AWAKENED ONE BRIGHT MORNING TO FIND OURSELVES **ABANDONED...**



IN THEIR HASTE TO QUIT THE CAMPSITE, THE **BEARERS** HAD MADE OFF WITH NOT ONLY MOST OF OUR PROVISIONS OF **PEMMICAN** AND **BISCUIT** BUT OUR **COMPASS** AND INSTRUMENTS AS WELL.



WE HAD LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO ATTEMPT TO FIND OUR WAY HOME AGAIN BY OUR **BOOT-PRINTS**, PRAYING EVERY MOMENT THAT IT WOULD NOT **SNOW...**

OUR PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED BY A **RAGING** SNOW STORM TOWARD EVENING THAT DROVE US INTO OUR TENTS. AND THEN VERY NEARLY TORE THE TENTS **THEMSELVES** FROM THEIR GUY WIRES...



WE EMERGED THE NEXT AFTERNOON BOTH **HUNGRY** AND **DEFEATED**. OUR FOOD WAS **GONE**, OUR TRACKS **HOPELESSLY ERASED** BY THE SNOW AND THE FUEL IN OUR **COLEMAN** LANTERNS RUNNING **DANGEROUSLY LOW...**



SIR HILLARY WAITED UNTIL **EVENING** THEN FIRED THE SINGLE **DISTRESS FLARE** WE'D MANAGED TO SALVAGE. AFTER THAT WE SAT DOWN TO **WAIT...**



I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US REALLY BELIEVED THE FLARE HAD BEEN SEEN BUT SIR HILLARY WAS A PROUD MAN AND I KNEW HE WOULD GREET DEATH WITH THE SAME COURAGE HE ALWAYS RESERVED FOR THE MOST TREACHEROUS SLOPES...



OUR LANTERN CEASED FUNCTIONING ABRUPTLY THE FOLLOWING EVENING. I LOOKED ACROSS AT SIR HILLARY WITH A SMILE OF RESIGNATION BUT HE SEEMED LOST IN SOME PRIVATE DREAM!

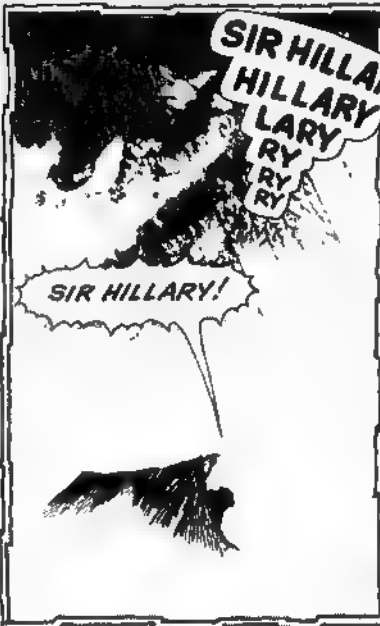


HIS EYES WERE RIVETED ALMOST HYPNOTICALLY ON THE COLD METAL LID OF THE LANTERN. I THOUGHT PERHAPS HE WAS USING SOME FORM OF HINDU YOGA TO WARM HIMSELF SO I LEFT HIM UNDISTURBED...

WE HAD DOUBLED UP IN THE ONE TENT TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM WARMTH BUT BY MIDNIGHT THE COLD BECAME UNMERCIFUL. I CURLED UP IN MY FRAIL SLEEPING BAG, CLOSED MY EYES AND DRIFTED OFF, FEELING THE ICY FINGERS OF DEATH PLUCKING AT MY BONES...



HALF IN DREAM, HALF AWAKE, I OPENED MY EYES IN THE FREEZING TENT TO FIND THAT I WAS ALL ALONE CASTING OFF THE USELESS COVERS, I BEGAN SHOUTING MY COMPANIONS NAME...



I CAUGHT UP TO HIS STEADILY PLODDING FORM JUST AS THE SUN WAS RISING ABOVE THE JAGGED HIMALAYAN PEAKS.

I DON'T KNOW EVEN NOW WHY IT SEEMED SO DESPERATELY IMPORTANT THAT I REACH HIM—WE WERE BOTH DEAD MEN ANYWAY... YET I COULD NOT SLACKEN MY PACE...

SIR HILLARY!
WAIT! PLEASE!
THE CHASM'S
UP AHEAD!

WAIT!
THE
CHASM!

NO!
NO!

I DON'T REMEMBER STRIKING THE BOTTOM OF THE CRAVASS... I SCARCELY RECALL THE FALL... ONLY THAT OUR BODIES WERE LOCKED TOGETHER IN A KIND OF GROTESQUE BALLET AND THAT WE WERE BEING PUMMELED AGAIN AND AGAIN AGAINST THE SNOWY SIDES OF THE BLUFF...



MINUTES OR HOURS LATER, I WAS SURPRISED TO FIND MYSELF WAKING UP TO SIR HILLARY'S REPEATED CUFFINGS OF MY ACHING CHEEKS...

RUDY!...
WAKE UP!
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED!

WAKE UP! SOMETHING
EXTRAORDINARY HAS TAKEN
PLACE! EITHER WE'RE BOTH
DREAMING OR THE TEMPERATURE
HAS RISEN. SEE...IT'S WARMER!
THE SNOW IS MELTING!

I PUSHED TO MY FEET, ALREADY FEELING
RIVULETS OF PERSPIRATION RUNNING
BENEATH THE HEAVY PARKA. IT WAS
TRUE... THE WEATHER WAS WARMER...

WHAT THE
DEVIL...

IT'S TRUE
NONETHELESS!
LOOK! GRASS
PUSHING UP
BENEATH THE
SNOW!

BUT
THIS IS
IMPOSSIBLE!

WILD ONIONS! FOOD!
AND LOOK, RUDY! THE
SNOW IS ACTUALLY
MELTING HERE!

A STRANGE LIGHT CAME TO SIR
HILLARY'S EYES. I HAD NEVER
SEEN HIM REACT WITH SUCH
SINGULAR INTENSITY TO ANY-
THING BEFORE. TRUE, IT WAS
MARVELOUS GOOD LUCK...WE
MIGHT YET SURVIVE THE OR-
DEAL...YET SIR HILLARY PRESS-
ED ON AS IF GUIDED BY SOME
INEX- PLICABLE INNER
FORCE...

WHAT WAS
THAT?

WHAT

I THOUGHT I SAW
SOMETHING... A
FIGURE... MOVING
FURTIVELY BEHIND
THE RIDGE THERE...

A FOX
PERHAPS.

I TELL YOU,
RUDY THIS IS
**UNPRECEDENT-
ED!** IT'S ACTUALLY
GROWING **WARMER!**
BY HEAVEN, LOOK!
... A TREE!



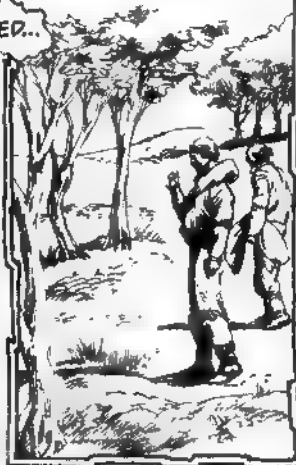
FRUIT!

WE'RE **SAVED** RUDY!
WE'RE **SAVED!** SOME
MIRACLE FROM HEAVEN
HAS **RESCUED** US FROM
THESE FROZEN WASTES!
DO YOU **HEAR** ME RUDY?
WE'RE **SAVED!!**



...SAVED...

WE PRESSED ON, BUT IN
A FEW **HOURS** THE ICY
PEAKS HAD GIVEN WAY
TO ROLLING **HILLS** AND
LUSH **VALLEYS**. SMALL
GAME FROLICKED
ABOUT US. THE TREES
WERE **LADEN** WITH **FRUIT**.



I HAD NEVER SEEN A LOOK
OF SUCH UTTER **PEACE**
AND **CONTENTMENT**. I
KNEW IN MY HEART THAT
SIR HILLARY HAD FOUND
HIS LONG SOUGHT
UTOPIA. THERE WOULD
BE NO MORE MOUNTAINS
TO CLIMB, NO MORE
VISTAS TO CONQUER...
HE WOULD NOT LEAVE
THIS **MAGIC VALLEY** FOR
THE **BEST** OF HIS DAYS.



YET THE THOUGHT OF **NEVER** SEEING MY
FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES AGAIN BORE
HEAVILY UPON ME... THE IDEA OF **NEVER**
STROLLING THROUGH MY BELOVED **LIVER-
POOL** SENT A **NEW** KIND OF CHILL
THROUGH ME.



FOR THE MOMENT
I WAS CONTENT
TO LAY IN THE
SOFT GRASS
AND SMELL THE
HEAVY, SCENTED
AIR... BUT EVEN
THEN I KNEW I
COULD **NEVER**
BE HAPPY THERE.

I DROPPED OFF INTO A TROUBLED SLEEP... WHEN MY
EYES ONCE **AGAIN** FLUTTERED OPEN...



BEAUTIFUL... UTTERLY **BEAUTIFUL**. THAT IS
THE ONLY WORD I CAN THINK TO DESCRIBE
THE ALMOST ETHEREAL HOST OF **GLOWING**
FACES THAT SMILED DOWN WARMLY AT
US THERE IN THE MEADOW.



INDEED, FOR A MOMENT I BELIEVED I
HAD ACTUALLY DIED IN MY SLEEP AND
AWAKENED IN HEAVEN ITSELF... BUT A
GREATER SHOCK AWAITED ME AS I
TURNED TO MY COMPANION...



**SIR
HILLARY!**

RUDY!
YOUR FACE!
YOU...

GOOD HEAVENS,
WHO ARE THESE
PEOPLE?



I PUT MY HAND TO MY OWN FACE AND KNEW THE TRANSFORMATION WAS TAKING PLACE WITHIN ME TOO! NOT QUITE THE PICTURE OF DIVINITY THAT SURROUNDED US, I WOULD NEVERTHELESS SOON MATCH THOSE GLOWING FACES STARING DOWN AT US. SIR HILLARY APPEARED ELATED AT THE PROSPECT... I WAS TERRIFIED!...

RUDY!
COME BACK!
WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?



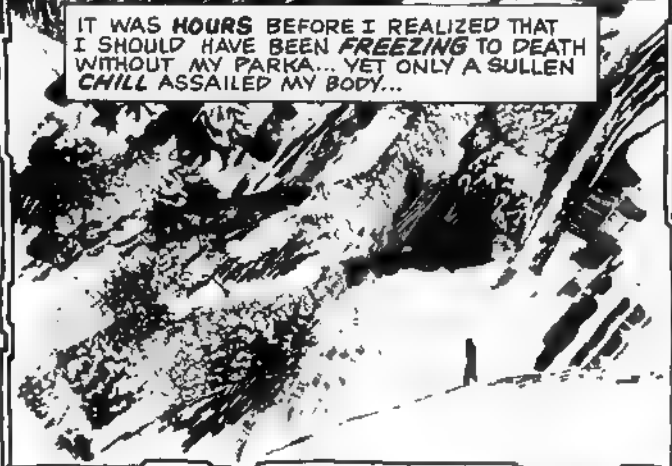
I RAN AS I HAD NEVER RUN BEFORE... ACROSS THE GOLDEN HILLS OF SWAYING GRASS AND FRUIT-LADEN TREES AND SPARKLING BROOKS AND GENTLE FAUNA.

FOR GNAWING AT MY INNER MIND WAS THE CERTAINTY THAT IF I LINGERED BUT A FEW MOMENTS LONGER I SHOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE THE OUTSIDE WORLD AGAIN...



I SKIRTED THE SHEER CLIFF SIR HILLARY AND I HAD FALLEN FROM AND SOON MADE MY WAY BACK INTO THE ICY REGIONS OF THE HIMALAYAS...

IT WAS HOURS BEFORE I REALIZED THAT I SHOULD HAVE BEEN FREEZING TO DEATH WITHOUT MY PARKA... YET ONLY A SULLEN CHILL ASSAILED MY BODY...



IT WASN'T UNTIL THE SUN MOVED FROM BEHIND A CLOUD AND CAST MY SHADOW OUT BEFORE ME THAT I REALIZED MY TRUE FATE...



... SIR HILLARY AND I HAD NOT FOUND AN ENCHANTED LAND PEOPLED WITH ANGELIC HUMANS AT ALL... WE HAD INSTEAD STUMBLED ONTO THE SACRED SOIL OF THE MYTHICAL YETI...



WE HAD BEEN **TRANSFORMED** ALL RIGHT... BUT IN **MIND** AS WELL AS BODY. WE SAW ONLY WHAT THE YETI **INTENDED** US TO SEE... I SCREAMED MY **HORROR** TO THE HEAVENS! I COULD NOT RETURN TO HUMANITY... SO I SET ABOUT RETRACING MY STEPS **BACK** TO THE VALLEY...

OF COURSE MY SEARCH WAS IN **VAIN**... I HAD **BLASPHEMED**... I WAS TO BE **PUNISHED**...!



YOU'RE **EXHAUSTED** FROM EXPOSURE! HERE, LET ME **HELP** YOU...

DON'T TOUCH THE LANTERN!



KRAAANGH!



...AND **THAT** MY FRIEND IS MY SAD TALE ...ARE YOU **SATISFIED** NOW? WILL YOU ABANDON YOUR FOOLISH SEARCH AND BUY ME ANOTHER ROUND OF DRINKS?

INDEED I WILL NOT! I SHALL FIND THE BODY OF SIR HILLARY BRAE, SIR...

...EVEN AS YOU HAVE **FAILED!**

THEN I **PRAY**, SIR...



...THAT YOU HAVE **BETTER** LUCK THAN I!



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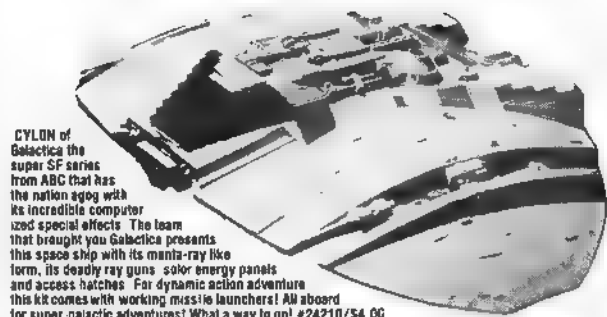
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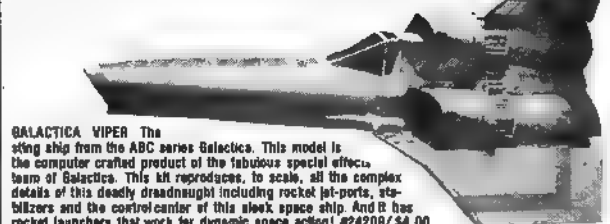
GALACTICA SPACE SHIPS

CYLON STAR CRUISER



CYLON of Galactica the super SF series from ABC that has the action going with its incredible computer sized special effects! The team that brought you Galactica presents this space ship with its mania-ray like form, its deadly ray guns, solar energy panels and access hatches! For dynamic action adventure this kit comes with working missile launchers! All aboard for super galactic adventures! What a way to go! #24210/\$4.00

VIPER STING SHIP

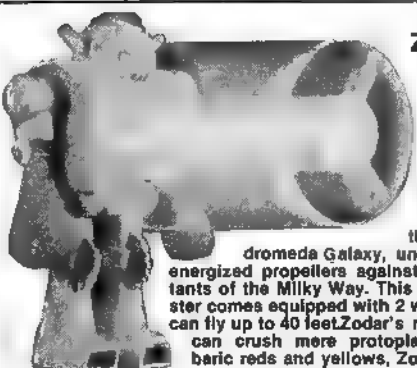


GALACTICA VIPER The sting ship from the ABC series Galactica. This model is the computer crafted product of the fabulous special effects team of Galactica. This kit reproduces, to scale, all the complex details of this deadly draught including rocket jet-ports, stabilizers and the control center of this sleek space ship. And it has rocket launchers that work for dynamic space action! #24209/\$4.00

ZODAR ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

Zooming in from the far reaches of outer galactic space, ZODAR, alien from the planet Tobor, on the far side of the Blue Drift in the An-

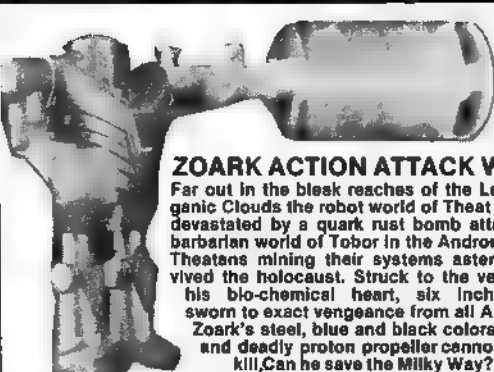
dromeda Galaxy, unleashes his neutron energized propellers against the helpless inhabitants of the Milky Way. This six inch homed monster comes equipped with 2 windup propellers that can fly up to 40 feet. Zodar's movable, jointed arms can crush mere protoplasm! Painted in barbaric reds and yellows, Zodar #26092/\$2.50



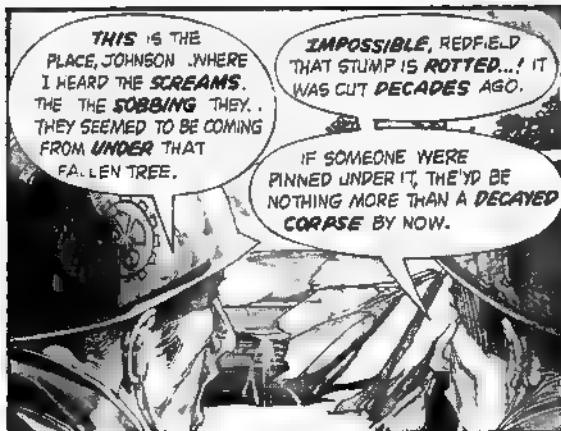
ACTION ATTACK WARRIORS

ZOARK ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

Far out in the bleak reaches of the Lesser Mellangenic Clouds the robot world of Theat Retrak 9 was devastated by a quark rust bomb attack from the barbarian world of Tobor in the Andromeda Galaxy. Theaters mining their systems asteroid belt survived the holocaust. Struck to the very depths of his bio-chemical heart, six inch Zoark has sworn to exact vengeance from all Andromedans. Zoark's steel, blue and black colors, jointed arm and deadly proton propeller cannon are ready to kill. Can he save the Milky Way? #26093/\$2.50



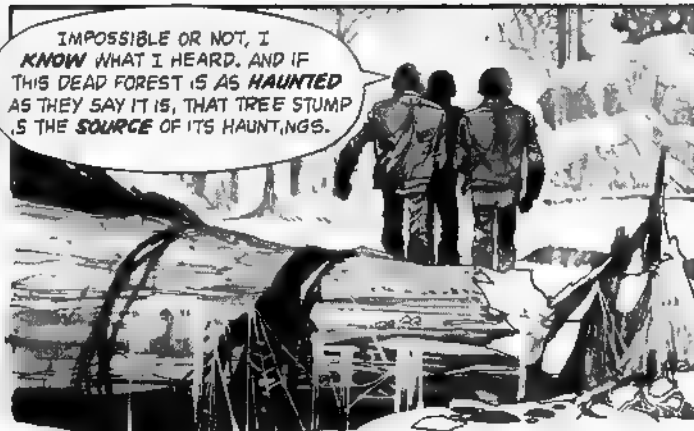
To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.



THIS IS THE PLACE, JOHNSON. WHERE I HEARD THE **SCREAMS**. THE THE **SOBBING** THEY. THEY SEEMED TO BE COMING FROM **UNDER** THAT FALLEN TREE.

IMPOSSIBLE, REDFIELD THAT STUMP IS **ROTTED**...! IT WAS CUT **DECADES** AGO.

IF SOMEONE WERE PINNED UNDER IT, THEY'D BE NOTHING MORE THAN A **DECAYED CORPSE** BY NOW.



IMPOSSIBLE OR NOT, I **KNOW** WHAT I HEARD. AND IF THIS DEAD FOREST IS AS **HAUNTED** AS THEY SAY IT IS, THAT TREE STUMP IS THE **SOURCE** OF ITS HAUNTINGS.

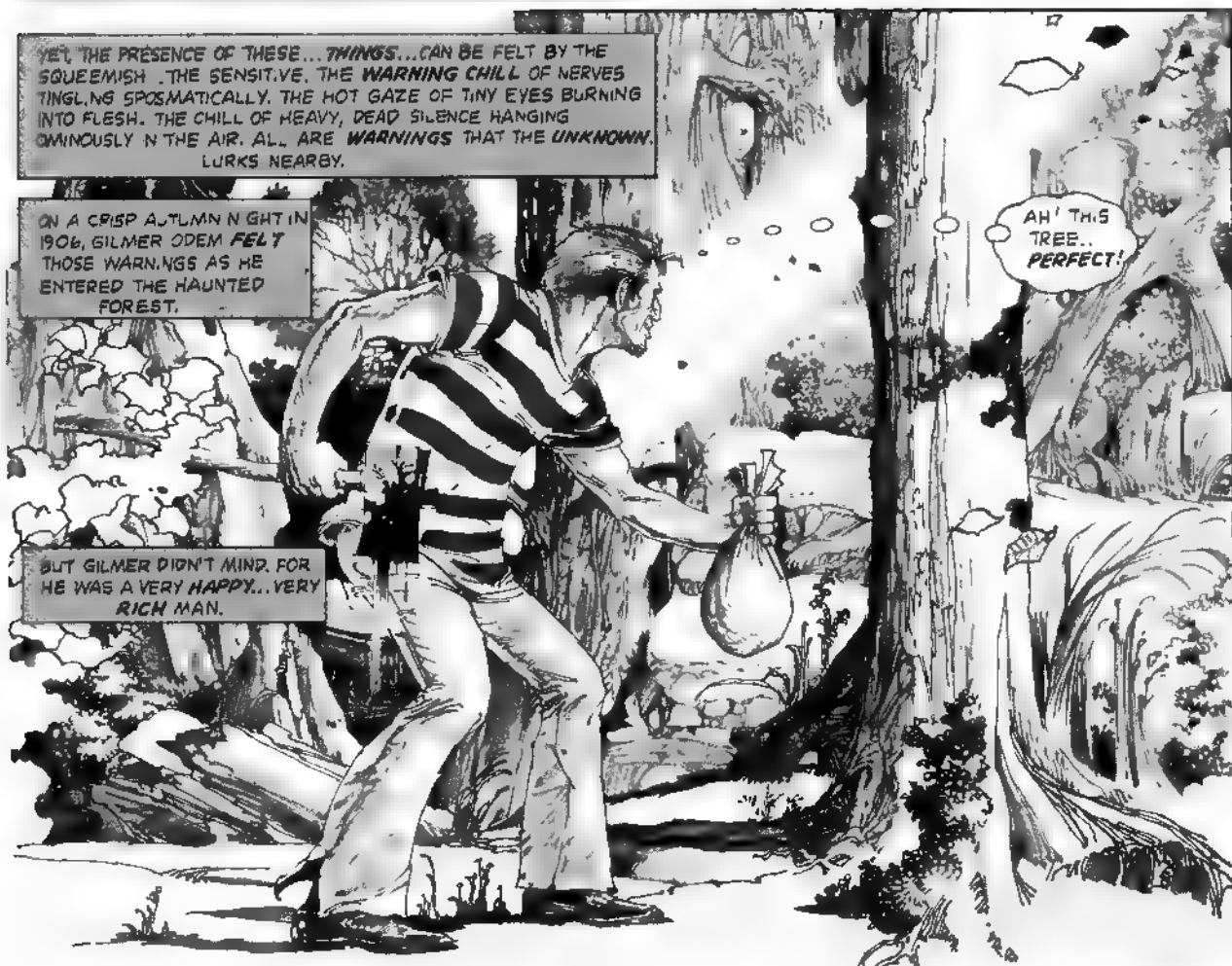
The **THING** in the **HAUNTED FOREST**

THINGS LURK IN DARKENED PLACES. CREEPY. CRAWLEY. **UNKNOWN** THINGS THINGS WITH BEADY EYES. THINGS WITH CACKLING FANGS. THINGS WITH COLD, SLIMY TOUCH THAT NO HUMAN MAY EVER LAY EYES UPON...

YET, THE PRESENCE OF THESE... **THINGS**... CAN BE FELT BY THE SQUEAMISH. THE SENSITIVE. THE **WARNING CHILL** OF NERVES TINGLING SPASMATICALLY. THE HOT GAZE OF TINY EYES BURNING INTO FLESH. THE CHILL OF HEAVY, DEAD SILENCE HANGING OMINOUSLY IN THE AIR. ALL ARE **WARNINGS** THAT THE **UNKNOWN** LURKS NEARBY.

ON A CRISP AUTUMN NIGHT IN 1906, GILMER ODEM **FELT** THOSE WARNINGS AS HE ENTERED THE HAUNTED FOREST.

BUT GILMER DIDN'T MIND. FOR HE WAS A VERY **HAPPY**... VERY **RICH** MAN.



AH! THIS TREE... **PERFECT!**

THE COLD DEADNESS OF THE OCTOBER SUNSET LIT THE FOREST AN EERIE BLOOD RED. RED... A FURTHER WARNING WHICH GILMER IGNORED.

I'LL ONLY TAKE ENOUGH TO SURVIVE ON... AND BURY THE REST HERE WHERE NO ONE WILL FIND IT

GILMER KNEW THEY WOULD COME LOOKING FOR HIM SEARCHING HIM OUT THE SHERIFF. A POSSE MAYBE. BUT HE WOULD BE READY HE HAD HIS STORY HIS ALIBI. AND THEY'D NEVER FIND THE MONEY. THEY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PROVE A THING.



THE FEEL OF THE GOLD COINS... THE THRILL OF HIS TRIUMPH... CAST A COLD LEER UPON GILMER'S FEATURES. HE HAD WON. HE HAD TRIUMPHED. NOW THE TREASURE WAS HIS.

THEY ONE'LL BUY ME THE BIGGEST BOTTLE THIS SIDE OF KANSAS THEY ONE'S FOR THE SEXIEST HUNK OF WOMAN AT LIL'S HOUSE OF DELIGHTS



AND THIS ONE'S FOR OLD SKINFLINT SHAKLEFORD... FOR MAKING IT ALL POSSIBLE MUSN'T FORGET TO BUY HIM A NICE, MODEST... TOMBSTONE.

THE GOLD COINS GLISTENED A BRIGHT RED AS GILMER FLICKED THEM INTO THE SHALLOW P.T RED... FROM THE DYING LIGHT OF AUTUMN SUN RED STAINED WITH THE BLOOD OF THE MAN TO WHOM THEY ONCE BELONGED.

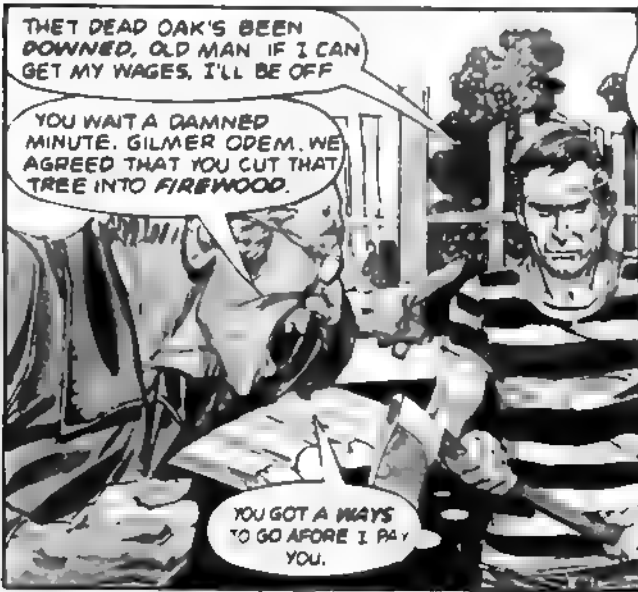


THE SCARLET COINS FORCED GILMER TO REMEMBER.

THEY DEAD OAK'S BEEN DOWNED. OLD MAN IF I CAN GET MY WAGES, I'LL BE OFF

YOU WANT A DAMNED MINUTE. GILMER ODEM. WE AGREED THAT YOU CUT THAT TREE INTO FIREWOOD.

YOU GOT A WAYS TO GO AFORE I PAY YOU.



AND I SAY I'M FINISHED YOU'VE GOT YOUR FIREWOOD, YOU OLD TIGHT-WAD IN THE FORM OF ONE GIANT LOG. I AIN'T ABOUT TO CUT THAT TREE UP ANY FURTHER

THEN I AIN'T ABOUT TO PAY YOU. YOU LAZY DULLARD. GET YOUR CHUNK OFF MY LAND.





YOU'LL PAY ME, SHAKLEFORD. OR I'LL CUT IT OUT OF YOUR HIDE.



I'LL HAVE THE SHERIFF ON YOU FOR THIS, ODEM! WE'LL LET HIM DECIDE WHO OWES WHAT TO WHO.

YOU AIN'T CALLIN' NO ONE, OLD MAN...



...EVER AGAIN!

GILMER. NO. D-DON'T BE A FOOL. P-PUT THAT DOWN...PLEASE... GILMERRRRR--!



YOU'RE THE FOOL!

THAG!



DAMNED OLD TIGHTWAD HE SHOULD'VE PAID ME WHAT HE OWED. NOW I'VE GOT TO RUMMAGE THROUGH HIS SHACK AND TAKE WHAT'S COMING TO ME.



HE WAS A MISERLY OLD COOT. HOARDED HIS MONEY THEY SAY. FAT CHANCE I'LL HAVE OF STUMBLING ACROSS HIS CACHE.

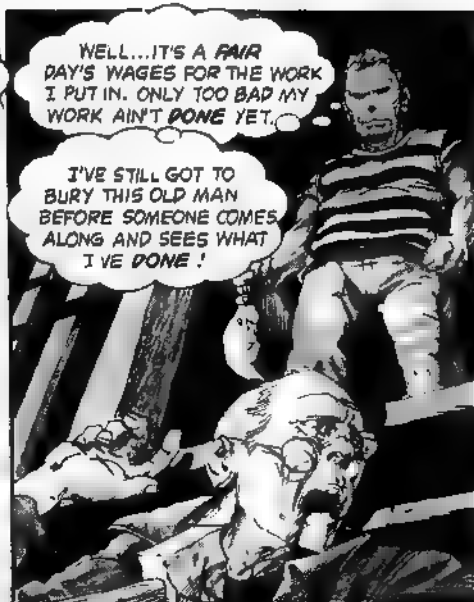
HEY. THAT LOOSE BOARD. COULD IT BE--?



JUMPIN' LORD!
IF THIS AIN'T MY
LUCKY DAY.

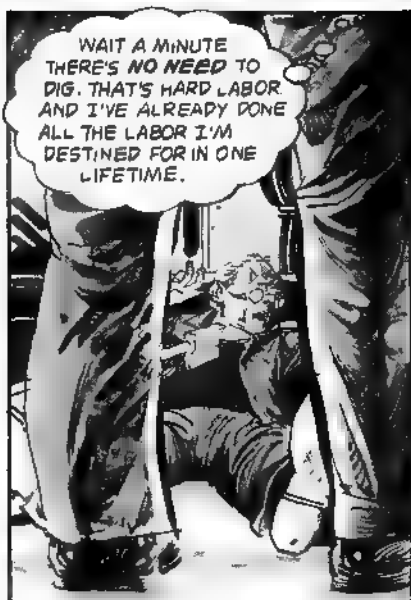


THERE'S A **SMALL FORTUNE** HERE. ALL IN **GOLD COINS**. THAT SKIN-FLINT MUST HAVE **MISERED** IT AWAY OVER THE YEARS. **SAVING EVERY PENNY** HE EVER TOUCHED.

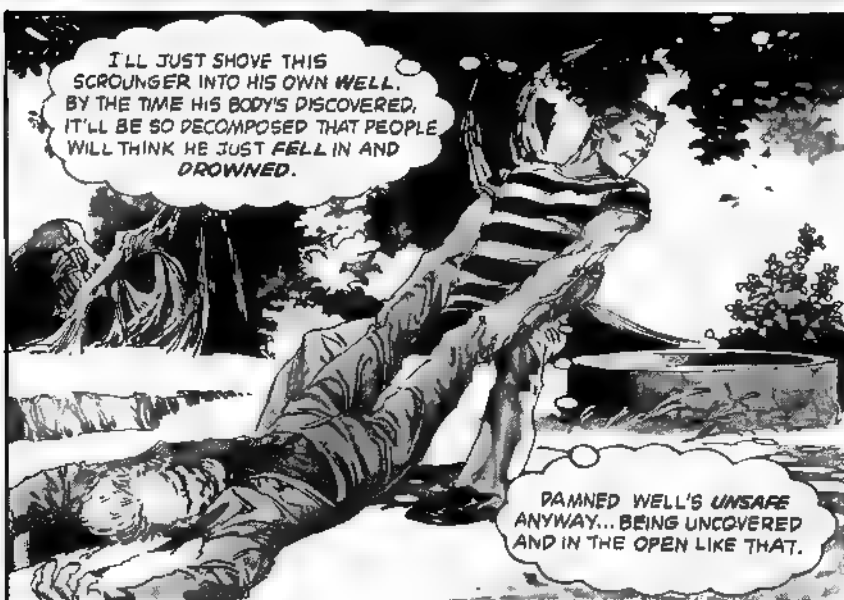


WELL...IT'S A **FAIR DAY'S WAGES** FOR THE WORK I PUT IN. ONLY TOO BAD MY WORK AIN'T **DONE YET**.

I'VE STILL GOT TO BURY THIS OLD MAN BEFORE SOMEONE COMES ALONG AND SEES WHAT I'VE DONE!

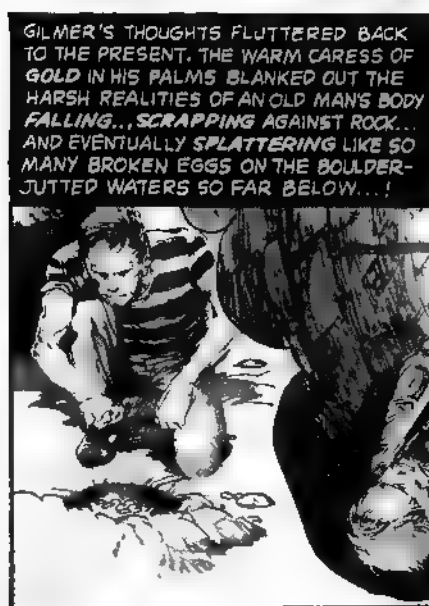


WAIT A MINUTE THERE'S **NO NEED** TO DIG. THAT'S HARD LABOR AND I'VE ALREADY DONE ALL THE LABOR I'M DESTINED FOR IN ONE LIFETIME.



I'LL JUST SHOVE THIS SCROUNGER INTO HIS OWN WELL. BY THE TIME HIS BODY'S DISCOVERED, IT'LL BE SO DECOMPOSED THAT PEOPLE WILL THINK HE JUST FELL IN AND DROWNED.

DAMNED WELL'S **UNSAFE** ANYWAY... BEING UNCOVERED AND IN THE OPEN LIKE THAT.



GILMER'S THOUGHTS FLUTTERED BACK TO THE PRESENT. THE WARM CARESS OF **GOLD** IN HIS PALMS BLANKED OUT THE HARSH REALITIES OF AN OLD MAN'S BODY **FALLING...SCRAPPING AGAINST ROCK...** AND EVENTUALLY **SPLATTERING** LIKE SO MANY BROKEN EGGS ON THE BOULDER-JUTTED WATERS SO FAR BELOW...



THAT'S IT! MY TREASURE IS BURIED WHERE NO MAN WILL UNEARTH IT. AND YET... HOW WILL I KNOW WHERE TO FIND IT...? THERE MUST BE **DOZENS** OF CLEARINGS IN THIS FOREST... ALL OF THEM EXACTLY LIKE THIS VERY SPOT.



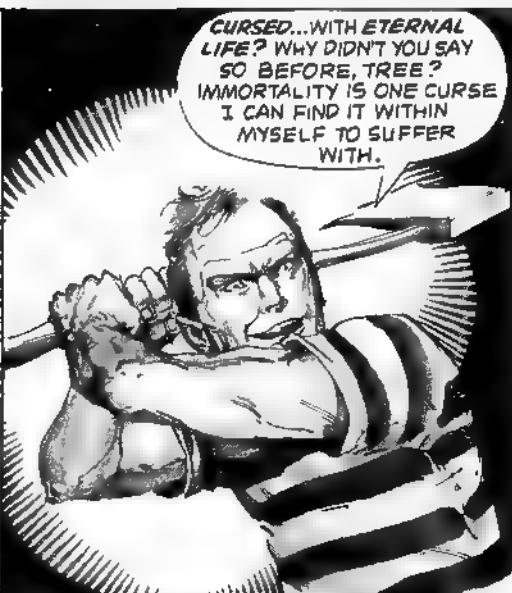
ONCE, WHEN I WAS BUT A LOWLY SERVING WENCH, I DID AS MY MYSTIC MASTER BID, AS THE DAYS PASSED I WATCHED WITH INCREASING INTEREST THE MIRACLES PERFORMED BY HIS MAGIC.

FINALLY, I COULD WATCH NO MORE. I COVETED MY LORD'S POWERS. I STOLE HIS BOOK OF SPELLS. AND WITH MY PETS... I FLED INTO THE FOREST... THIS FOREST.

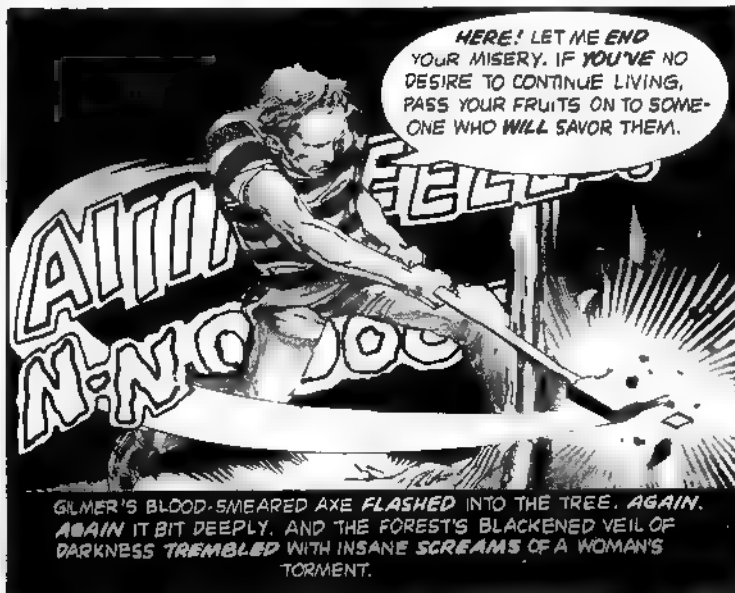
BUT ALAS, LODI AWAITED ME HERE AND FOR MY TREACHERY, HE DECREED I AND MY PETS LIVE IN ETERNAL TORMENT... EMBODIED... ENTOMBED... AS A SIMPLE OAK!

THUS HAVE I BEEN SINCE THAT DAY LONG AGO. STANDING ALONE, FACING THE COLD OF WINTER. THE LONELINESS OF SUMMER. EVER WISHING TO ESCAPE ... YET EVER-KNOWING ... I CANNOT.

FOR ETERNAL LIFE FLOWS WITHIN MY LIMBS. AND HE WHO DESTROYS MY FORM WILL BE CURSED WITH THAT LIFE... FOR ALL TIME!



CURSED...WITH ETERNAL LIFE? WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO BEFORE, TREE? IMMORTALITY IS ONE CURSE I CAN FIND IT WITHIN MYSELF TO SUFFER WITH.

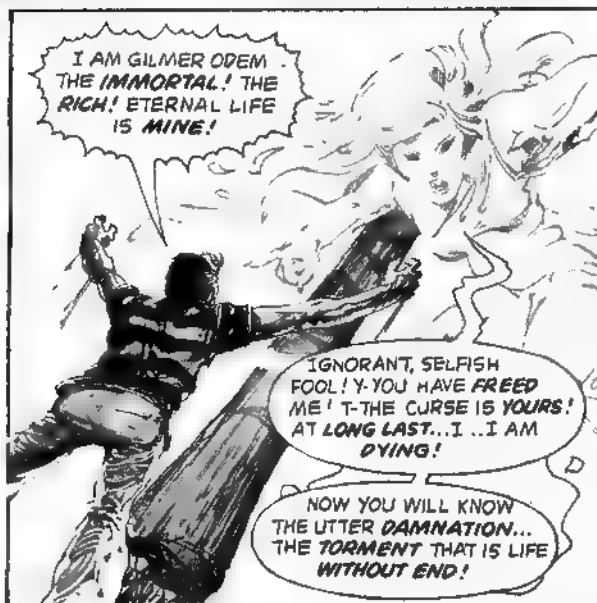


HERE! LET ME END YOUR MISERY. IF YOU'VE NO DESIRE TO CONTINUE LIVING, PASS YOUR FRUITS ON TO SOMEONE WHO WILL SAVOR THEM.

GILMER'S BLOOD-SMEARED AXE FLASHED INTO THE TREE. AGAIN. AGAIN IT BIT DEEPLY. AND THE FOREST'S BLACKENED VEIL OF DARKNESS TREMBLED WITH INSANE SCREAMS OF A WOMAN'S TORMENT.

BLOOD. DEEP RED. THICK STEAMING BLOOD OOZED FROM THE GAPING WOUND. AND GILMER KNEW THAT THE APPARITION WAS REAL. STREAMING. CRIMSON. ETERNAL LIFE FLOWED FROM THE TREE... GILMER COULD FEEL IT'S PULSATING POWER TOUCHING HIM. ENGULFING HIM. MAKING HIM WHOLE.

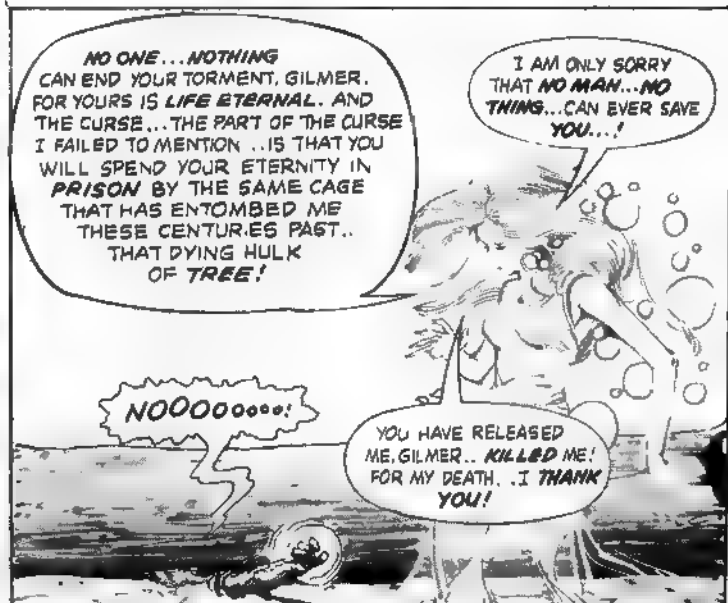
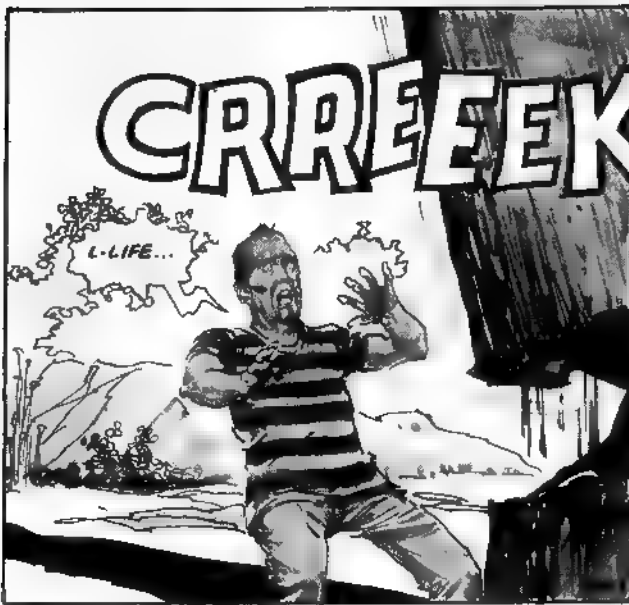
T-THE STRENGTH.. LIFE! I CAN FEEL IT COURSEING THROUGH MY VEINS. THIS IS IMMORTALITY. THE APPARITION DID NOT LIE!



I AM GILMER ODEM. THE IMMORTAL! THE RICH! ETERNAL LIFE IS MINE!

IGNORANT, SELFISH FOOL! YOU HAVE FREED ME! T-THE CURSE IS YOURS! AT LONG LAST... I ... I AM DYING!

NOW YOU WILL KNOW THE UTTER DAMNATION... THE TORMENT THAT IS LIFE WITHOUT END!

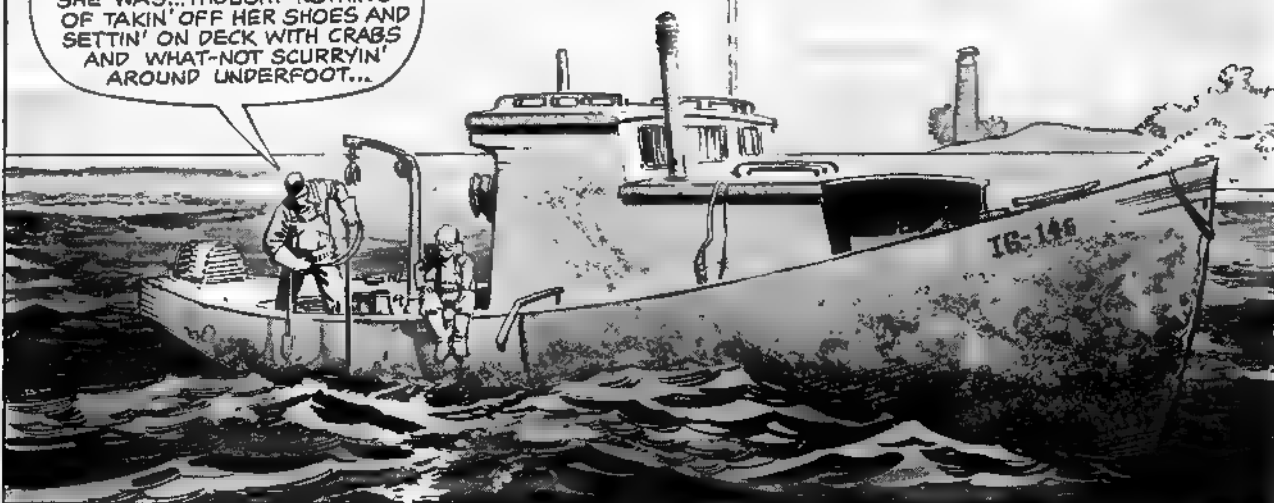


WISCASSET, MAINE—A TINY, PICTURESQUE SEAPORT TOWN OF WHITE-PAINTED HOMES AND ABUNDANT FISHING HARBORS, OF ELM-SHADED STREETS AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY MANSIONS BUILT BY ENTERPRISING SHIPOWNERS. A NEW ENGLAND TOWN OF JUST OVER 2,000, MANY OF WHOM REGARD THE FIERY ATLANTIC WATERS AS NOT ONLY A **STRONGHOLD** OF NATURE'S ETERNAL BEAUTY, BUT AS A MEANS OF **SUSTENANCE** AS WELL.

ONE SENIOR MEMBER OF THIS PROUD GROUP IS ALF WILLIAMSON. HE TAKES HIS GRANDSON BILLY TO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF THE SEA-BEATEN FISHING BOAT AND THE SLIME-RIDDEN LOBSTER TRAP, A WORLD IN WHICH ONE'S DAILY TAKE IS MEASURED NOT BY WORK HOURS OR OFFICE POLITICS, BUT BY **POUNDRAGE** OF LIVE CRUSTACEAN MEAT. IN ESSENCE, A **SEAMAN'S** WORLD—THE ONLY WORLD WITH WHICH ALF WILLIAMSON IS **TRULY** FAMILIAR.

KILLER CLAW

WHEN YOUR MOTHER WAS JUST A LITTLE GIRL, I USED TO TAKE HER OUT ON THIS VERY BOAT, BILLY! **TOUGH** LITTLE GIRL SHE WAS...THOUGHT NOTHING OF TAKIN' OFF HER SHOES AND SETTIN' ON DECK WITH CRABS AND WHAT-NOT SCURRYIN' AROUND UNDERFOOT...



A **TOMBOY** IS WHAT SHE WAS... OF COURSE THAT'S BEFORE SHE DISCOVERED **BOYS**...

BOYS?

YEP! BROKE MY HEART, SHE DID! SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED IT, THOUGH... **EVERYBODY** GROWS UP, SOONER OR LATER!

HOW MUCH D'YA THINK WE'RE GONNA CATCH, GRAMPA?

WELL, BILLY, I FIGGER WE'LL BE PULLIN' IN ABOUT SIXTY POUNDS...THAT IS, IF THOSE BLASTED **POACHERS** HAVEN'T GOT-TEN TO MY TRAPS FIRST!

CLICK WHIR-R-RRR

WARDEN'S GOT HIS HANDS FULL KEEPIN' UP WITH THOSE NO-GOOD THIEVES...



...SNEAKIN' INTO THE HARBOR
LATE AT NIGHT, RAIDIN' WHAT-
EVER *POTS* THEY CAN LAY
THEIR HANDS ON!

NOT *EVERYONE'S*
HONEST LIKE YOUR
OL' GRANDPA, BILLY!
THAT'S *ONE* LESSON
YOU'LL LEARN SOON
ENOUGH!

SOMETIMES THE
SCOUNDRELS EVEN
CUT YOUR *ROPE*,
JUST FOR SPITE...

HEY!
LOOKEE
WHAT WE
GOT HERE!

WHEEE!

NOW *THAT'S* A
NICE WAY TO START
THE DAY, BILLY! AIN'T
NO POACHERS BEEN
NEAR *THIS* TRAP!

THREE, GRANDPA!
WE GOT *THREE*!

WELL, *ONE* WE GOTTA
THROW BACK! SHE'S TOO
YOUNG... NOT *NEARLY*
BIG ENOUGH TO KEEP!

GOTTA LET HER GROW,
SO ONE DAY WE CAN
CATCH HER AGAIN...
WHEN SHE'S READY
TO BE EATEN!

GRANDPA!
THE BOAT—
IT'S *TILTING*!

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME!
THE LINE MUST'VE GOTTEN
CAUGHT ON SOMETHING
... A *ROCK* OR...

OH...
OHMIGOD!!!
Noooo!

A DULL THOUGH DISTINCTIVE **SPLASH** IS HEARD, FOLLOWED BY AN UNNERVING **QUIET**. NOT UNTIL MORNING DO NEIGHBORS ALONG THE ROCKY COAST REALIZE THAT REMOTE, FORGETTABLE SOUND RANG OF **DEATH**—

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT, CAPTAIN! FROM WHAT I GATHERED, THAT WILLIAMSON WAS ONE OF THE MOST **CAPABLE LOBSTERMEN** IN THE VILLAGE!

EVEN A **TIDAL WAVE** COULDN'T HAVE CAUSED THAT KIND OF DAMAGE, EICAS... AND LAST NIGHT THE WATERS WERE AS CALM AS A BABY! I MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING **ELSE!**

LET'S HOPE WHEN WE FIND THE **BODIES**, IT'LL GIVE US SOME CLUES!

SPEAKING OF **BODIES**, HILLBOURNE, IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU AND YOUR MEN—
ER... **DIVERS**, GOT ON IT!

WE'VE GOT ONE WOMAN HERE WHO **FEARS** SHE'S LOST HER SON AND HER FATHER...

...AND BY LOOKS OF THINGS, I'D SAY HER FEARS ARE NOT **UNWARRANTED!**

IF YOU ASK ME, IT TAKES ONE **TOUGH** WOMAN TO KEEP STANDING WHILE GOING THROUGH THAT KIND OF **GRIEF!**


YOU HEARD THE CAPTAIN HANK! TAKE US OUT NEAR THE REEF PAST THE LIGHTHOUSE... WE CAN START LOOKING FROM THERE!

STOW IT, MICHAEL! WHEN WILL YOU LEARN I'M THE ONE WHO GIVES THE ORDERS ON THIS TEAM!

TAKE US OUT BY THE REEF, HANK!


SAVE YOUR BREATH, RICHARD! SOME OF US ARE JUST SELF-STYLED **ELITISTS**, WHO FEEL THEY'RE SIMPLY **BETTER** AND **SMARTER** THAN ANYONE ELSE...

AND OF THIS CLUB, I'D SAY OUR BELOVED MICHAEL DODD IS A **CHARTER MEMBER!**




COOL IT, BARB! THIS IS NO TIME TO START IN WITH OUR OWN PETTY **CHARACTER EVALUATIONS**-VALID AS THEY MAY BE!

WE'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO THINK ABOUT... NAMELY, HUSTLING UP A PAIR OF **BODIES**!




THE CAPSIZED BOAT WAS PULLED IN NOT FAR FROM HERE SO, JUDGING BY THE **CURRENT**, THE BODIES OF ALF WILLIAMSON AND YOUNG BILLY SHOULD BE NEARBY!

CORRECTION, MY FRIEND! NOT **SHOULD**...




MY... LORD! THESE ARE THE BODIES, ALL RIGHT...

... ARE!



NO ORDINARY CREATURE COULD'VE RIPPED THESE TWO APART **THIS** QUICKLY... NO MATTER **HOW** FAMISHED!

WHAT ATTACKED WILLIAMSON AND HIS GRANDSON HAS GOT TO HAVE BEEN SOMETHING WE'VE **NEVER** SEEN THE LIKES OF BEFORE... AND I'VE GOT A HUNCH IT MAY **STILL** BE IN THE VICINITY!




...IF YOU CAN CALL THESE PILES OF BONES **BODIES**!

ONE THING'S FOR CERTAIN... THESE ARE THE TWO WE'RE SEARCHING FOR! **WHATEVER SHREDS** OF CLOTHING ARE LEFT TELL US **THAT**!

BARBARA, MY SENSES TELL ME YOU ARE **ABSOLUTELY CORRECT**...

... WHICH IS **PRECISELY** WHAT I'M AFRAID OF!



THEY TURN IN UNISON, HESITATINGLY
ALMOST **KNOWING** WHAT LURKS
WHAT **STARES** TOGETHER THEY WISH
T WERE SOMETHING **ANYTHING...**
THER THAN WHAT THEY SEE...

RICHARD—
A GIANT
LOBSTER!

HOLY HANNAH! NOW
WE KNOW WHAT PULLED
WILLIAMSON'S BOAT
DOWN, AND JUDGING
BY THIS BABY'S **SIZE**,
SHE MUST HAVE DONE
IT WITH **EASE!**

DEEP-SEA DIVERS ARE KNOWN TO IN-
EXPRESSIBLY DEVELOP A **SIXTH**
SENSE AMIDST THE UNTAMED DEPTHS
WHICH THEY EXPLORE. RICHARD HILL-
BOURNE AND HIS TEAM ARE NO EX-
CEPTION, AND IF THIS **SIXTH SENSE** OF
THEIRS CAN TELL THEM ANYTHING, IT
IS WHEN THEY ARE BEING WATCHED!

WELL, MY FRIENDS
THIS GOES TO SHOW
THAT NOT ONLY AM I
THE **SMARTEST** OF THE
LOT BY BRINGING ALONG
A **HARPOON** AS A
PRECAUTION...

BUT I'M ALSO
ABOUT TO PROVE MY-
SELF THE **BRAVEST**
BY USING IT!

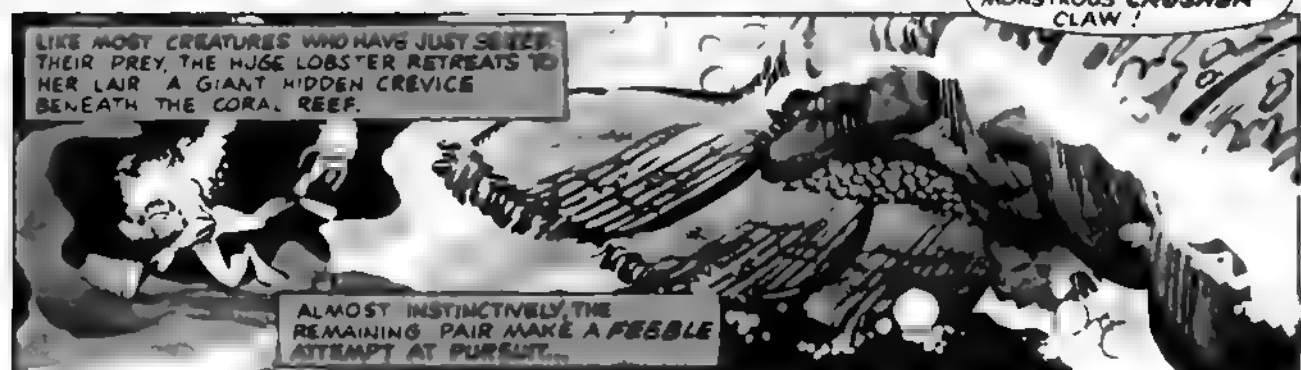
DON'T BE A **FOOL**, DODD
WE'VE GOT TO **PRESERVE**
THIS CREATURE FOR SCIENCE
TO STUDY! WE MUST FIND
A WAY TO **CAPTURE**
IT... **ALIVE!**

BESIDES, SHE IS CARRYING
EGGS, THOUSANDS OF THEM!
ALL MOTHERS-TO-BE GET
VERY **DEFENSIVE**. AND IT
TAKES JUST THE SLIGHTEST
SIGN OF **AGGRESSION** TO
TRIGGER AN ATTACK!

WHICH IS ALL THE MORE
REASON IT MUST BE **DESTROYED!**
THERE IS ONE THING YOU TWO
COMARDS ARE FORGETTING,
AND THAT IS...

THIS
THING
IS A
KILLER!

...AND WITH ONE **SLASH** OF A
BEHEMOTH CLAW MIKE DODD'S
INDICTMENT OF THE HUGE CRU-
TACEAN AS A **KILLER** IS
HORRIBLY **REAFFIRMED!**



A FEW SHORT HOURS LATER ..

LOOK, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT WE NEED YOU TWO TO GO **DOWN** AGAIN... AND WE HAVEN'T GOT MUCH TIME! WE'VE GOT TO CAPTURE THAT CREATURE **BEFORE** SHE RELEASES THOSE **EGGS**!

I KNOW HOW SENSITIVE YOU FEEL ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THIS MORNING, BARBARA. ANY **WOMAN** IN YOUR POSITION WOULD!

ONE THING YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND, CAPTAIN... I'M NOT SENSITIVE BECAUSE I'M **AWDMAN**...

... I'M SENSITIVE BECAUSE I'M **ME**...

C'MON, RICHARD! WE'VE GOT A **JOB** TO DO!

YOU BOTH UNDERSTAND, OF COURSE, THAT WE NEED YOU TO **OBSERVE**... JUST TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING'S RUNNING SMOOTHLY!

SURE THING, CAPTAIN! JUST DROP THE BAIT, AND WE'LL TAG ALONG RIGHT BEHIND!

PERFECT! WITH THOSE SACKS OF DEAD **FISH** DANGLING IN FRONT OF THE LOBSTER'S CAVE, SHE'LL BE LURED OUT OF THERE IN **NO** TIME!

THAT IS, IF SHE'S STILL **THERE**!

A CREATURE OF THAT SIZE IS BOUND TO VENTURE OUT INTO **DEEPER** WATERS, SOONER OR LATER!

WELL, MS WILHELM, ABOUT ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS **WAIT AND SEE**!

ONLY A FEW HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE GIANT LOBSTER FEASTED ON MIKE DODD'S REMAINS, BUT ONE **HUMAN** IS HARDLY ENOUGH OF A MEAL TO KEEP A HALF TON LOBSTER **SATISFIED**...

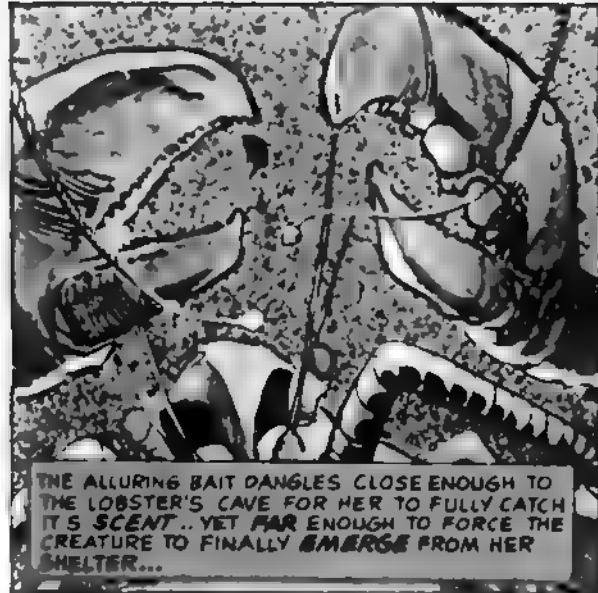
AND **SATISFIED** SHE IS NOT!

LOOK.. A **CLAW**! SHE'S **IN** THERE ALL RIGHT!

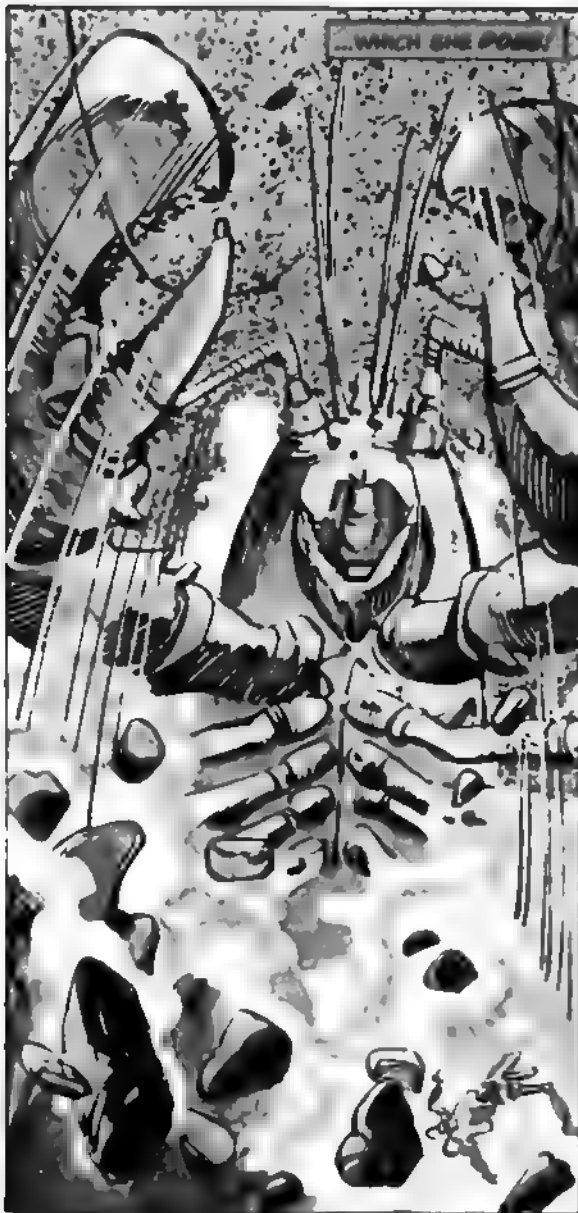
AND **HUNGRY** AS EVER!



THE MAMMOTH CRUSTACEAN
BATS AT THE ELUSIVE SACKS
OF DEAD MEAT TRYING TO
GRASP THEM WITH HER
HUGE PINCERS.



THE ALLURING BAIT DANGLES CLOSE ENOUGH TO
THE LOBSTER'S CAVE FOR HER TO FULLY CATCH
IT'S SCENT.. YET FAR ENOUGH TO FORCE THE
CREATURE TO FINALLY EMERGE FROM HER
SHELTER...



...WHICH SHE POWERS!



UPON FEELING THE LOBSTER'S
POWERFUL TUG, THE CAPTAIN
CIRCLES OVERHEAD, THERE-
BY TANGLING HER IN THE
ROPES...

RICHARD,
SHE'S GOTTEN
HOLD OF
THE BAIT!



...FORCING HER INTO A CONTORTED, DEFENSELESS
POSITION, ULTIMATELY STRAIT-JACKETING HER!

LIKE A GLADIATOR FIGHTING AN OMNIPOTENT FOE, THE GIANT SHELLFISH STRUGGLES VAINLY AS SHE FEELS HERSELF BEING LIFTED BY THE HYDRAULIC MONSTER OVERHEAD. INSTINCTIVELY, SHE FIGHTS TO PROTECT HER THOUSANDS OF FERTILIZED OVA... HELD TIGHT TO HER BELLY BY TINY VESTIGIAL LIMBS CALLED SWIMMERETTES!

FOR ONE SPLIT, SURREAL MOMENT, THE WHIRLING, TURBULENT FIGURE OF THE CREATURE SEEMS LIKE A MAMMOTH CARNIVAL RIDE, THRILLING IMAGINARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AS THEY SPIN THROUGH THE AIR. HOWEVER, THIS FANTASTIC ILLUSION IS SNAPPED BY THE AGONIZING CRACK OF THE HUGE CREATURES EXOSKELETON!

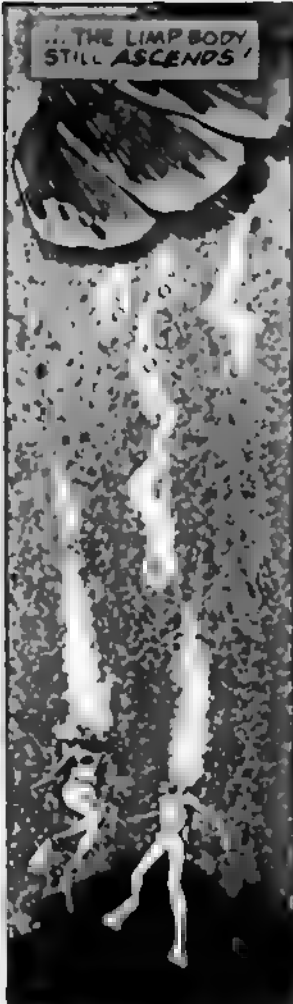
CRAACK

THAT HOOK
BROKE A HOLE
IN HER SHELL!
SHE WILL
DIE!

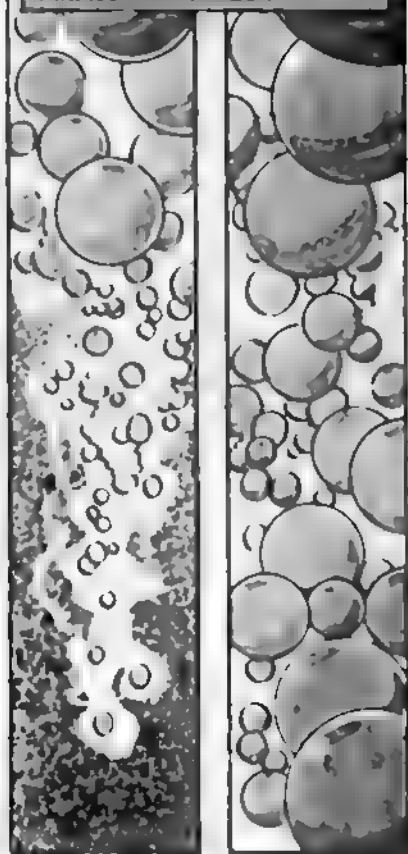
EVEN AS BARBARA SPEAKS, THE TURBULENT WATERS GROW STILL AS THE LOBSTER'S LIFE SLOWLY SINKS AWAY, TANGLED IN A MATRIX OF ROPE AND CLAW...



... THE LIMP BODY STILL ASCENDS!



THE TINY VESTIGIAL LIMBS WHICH HELD THE CREATURE'S RIPENING EGGS HAVE NOW GROWN LAX AND THE SHINY GREEN ORBS ARE NOW, FINALLY LET FREE!



THEY FLOAT IN THE WATER... A MILLION BALLOONS ABOVE A FESTIVE PARADE. EACH GLOBE EXUDING A PROMISE OF BIRTH... A PROMISE OF LIFE... NOT UNLIKE THE LIFE WHICH JUST MOMENTS BEFORE HAD BEEN STOLEN FROM THEIR VALIANT BEARER



MARCH 29, 1898 -- DARLING ELAINE -- COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED... EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO WRITE... ALL ALONE NOW, HUDDLED IN REAR CORNER OF TRAIN CAR... EVERYONE ELSE EITHER DEAD OR GONE... CAN HARDLY LIFT THE RIFLE, WEAK, DIZZY... NEED SLEEP BADLY BUT DARE NOT CLOSE MY EYES... THE CREATURE WAITS FOR ME TO SLEEP, PROWLING ABOUT OUTSIDE IN THE JUNGLE... WANT SLEEP BADLY, WRITING TO STAY AWAKE...

night eyes



...SILENCE NOW... THE CREATURE WAITS FOR ME TO DOZE... THEN IT WILL SLINK STEALTHILY IN AND SINK ITS FANGS INTO MY NECK...

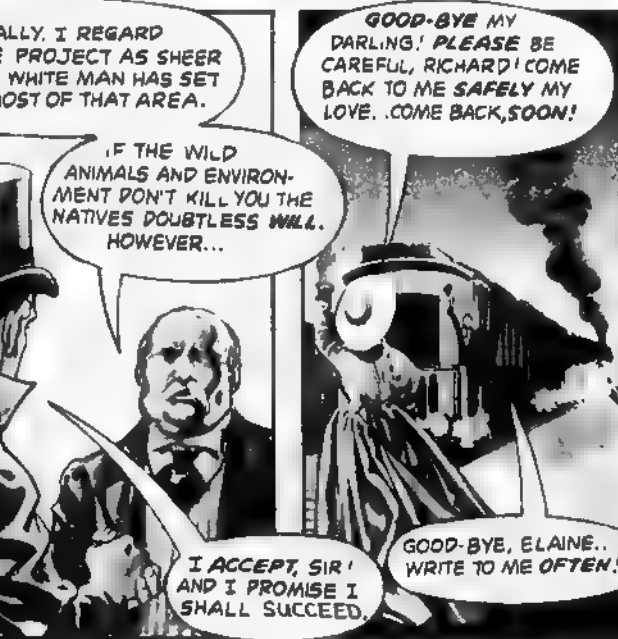
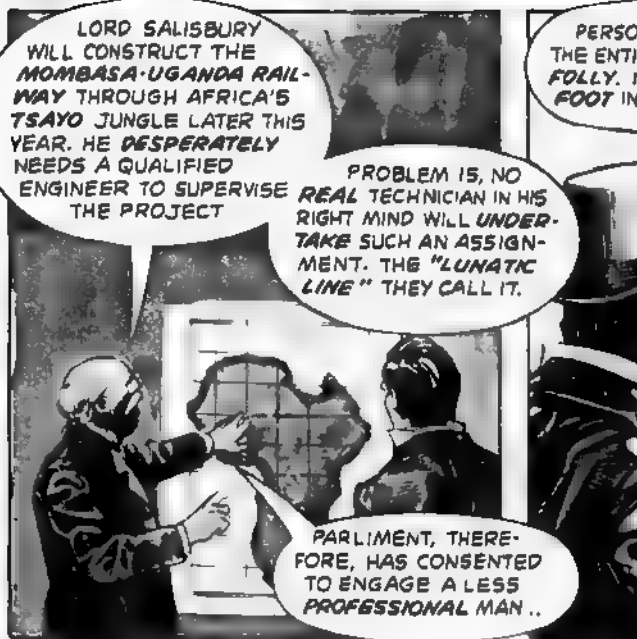
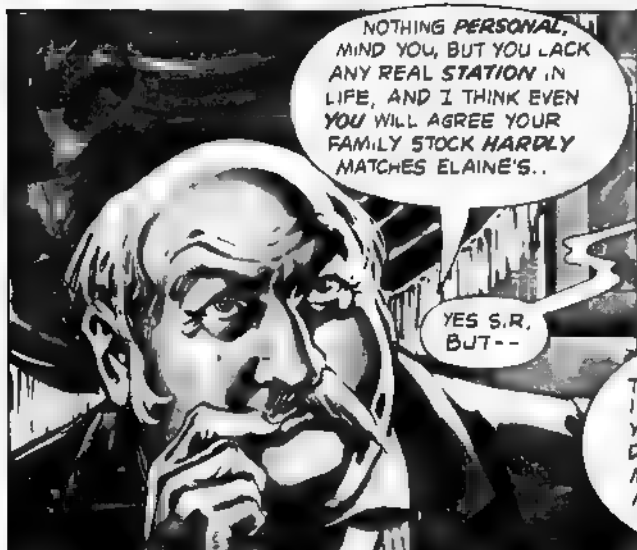


...DRAG ME INTO THE FOREST AND LICK THE FLESH FROM MY BONES... MUST THINK CLEARLY, KEEP MY MIND AWAKE... ELAINE... MUST THINK OF YOU, MY DARLING...



...ELAINE... I CAN SEE YOU NOW, DARLING... YOUR WILD, HONEYED HAIR BLOWING IN THE SUMMER WIND, YOUR CLEAR LAUGHTER RINGING OVER THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE...





JAN. 8, 1898: DARLING ELAINE--ARRIVED IN **MOMBASA** TODAY. I HAVE **NEVER** SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!



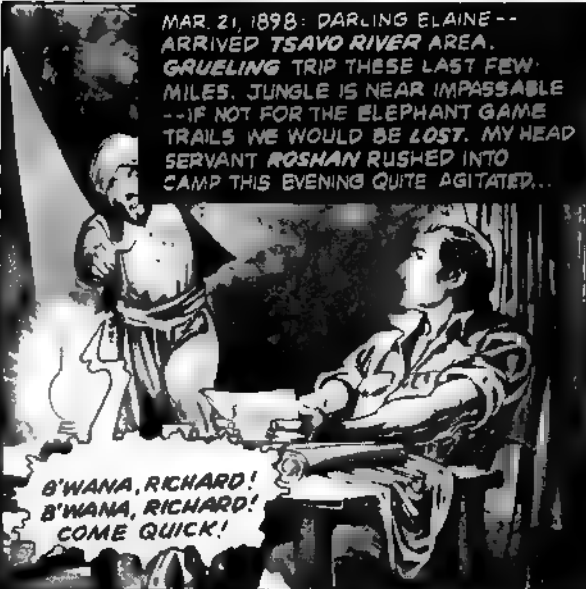
I MUST HOWEVER, CONFESS TO SOME **FOREBODING**. THE JUNGLE LOOKS QUITE IMPENETRABLE. OUR TASK SHALL NOT BE COMPLETED WITHOUT CONSIDERABLE **AGONIES**...

MAR. 15TH, 1898: DARLING ELAINE--PROGRESSING **SPLENDIDLY**! IMPORTED INDIAN COOLIES ARE **HARD WORKERS**. NAVIGATED THE **TARU DESERT** WITH A MINIMUM OF DIFFICULTY.



TRAVELED OVER 2,000 FEET UP THE **RABAI** ESCARPMENT INLAND FROM **KILENDINI**. WILL ARRIVE AT **TSAVO RIVER** AREA TOMORROW HAVING LAID 130 MILES OF TRACK!

MAR. 21, 1898: DARLING ELAINE--ARRIVED **TSAVO RIVER** AREA. **GRUELING** TRIP THESE LAST FEW MILES. JUNGLE IS NEAR IMPASSABLE --IF NOT FOR THE ELEPHANT GAME TRAILS WE WOULD BE **LOST**. MY HEAD SERVANT **ROSHAN** RUSHED INTO CAMP THIS EVENING QUITE **AGITATED**...



B'WANA, RICHARD!
B'WANA, RICHARD!
COME QUICK!

MY BROTHER, NEGHI GONE! HE SLEEPING RIGHT **BESIDE** ME! I HEAR **NOISE!** WAKE UP! HE **GONE!**

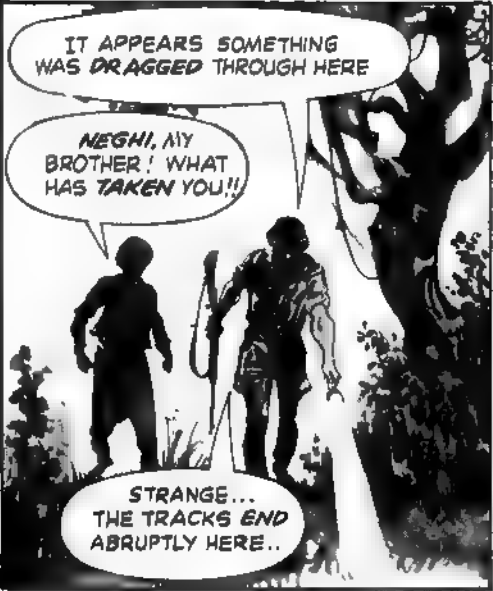


CALM DOWN, **ROSHAN**. LOOK, HERE RE **MARKS** IN THE SOIL MOVING AWAY FROM THE **TENT** AREA.

IT APPEARS SOMETHING WAS **DRAWN** THROUGH HERE

NEGHI, MY BROTHER! WHAT HAS **TAKEN** YOU!!

STRANGE... THE **TRACKS** END ABRUPTLY HERE...



WHAT THE **DEVIL**... IS IT **RAINING?**



AGGHHH!
NEGHI!
MY BROTHER!

DEAR **GOD...**



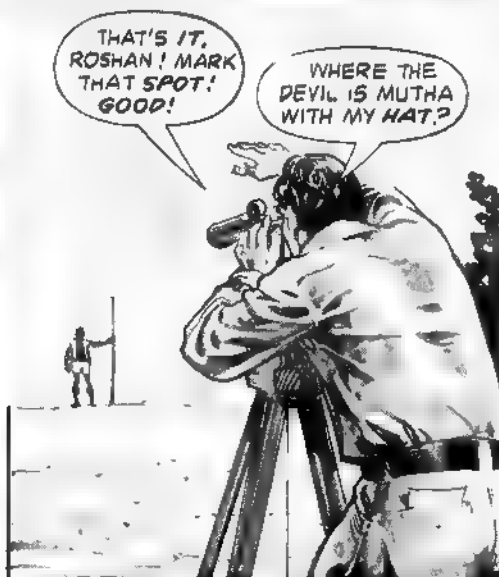
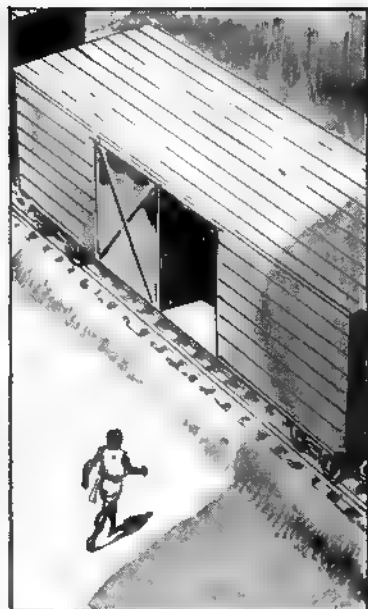
MAR 26, 1898. DARLING ELAINE--
WORK HERE IS BEEN EXHAUST-
ING. PROGRESS WAS IMPEDED
BY THE SLAYING OF ONE OF OUR
COOLIES-- APPARENTLY A LION
ATTACK. BURIED THE POOR
WRETCH THIS MORNING...



APRIL 10, 1898: DEAREST RICHARD--
HOW GHASTLY! YOU WILL BE CARE-
FUL, WON'T YOU, RICHARD, DEAR. .I
COULDN'T LIVE ANOTHER MOMENT
IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU!
OH WHY DID YOU UNDERTAKE SUCH
A RECKLESS MISSION?



MUTHA, FETCH
MY HELMET FROM
THE THIRD CAR,
WILL
YOU? INFERNAL
HEAT...

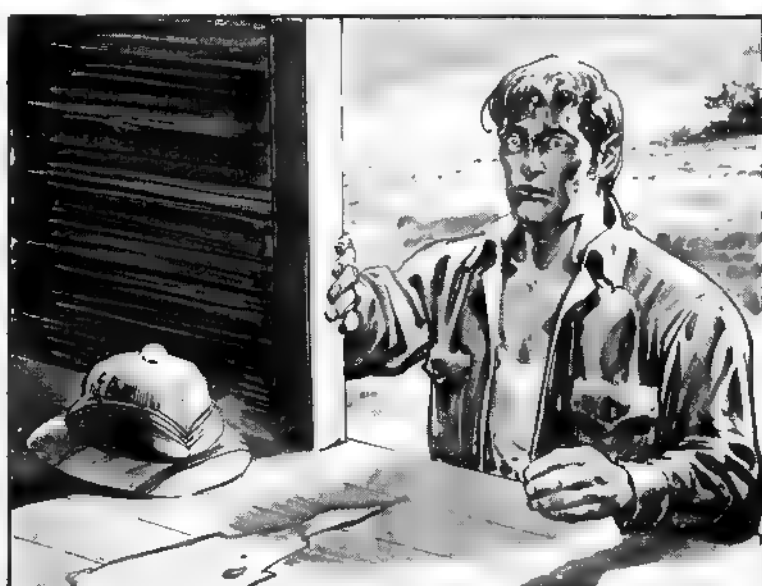


THAT'S IT,
ROSHAN! MARK
THAT SPOT!
GOOD!

WHERE THE
DEVIL IS MUTHA
WITH MY HAT?



MUTHA?
MUTHA, ARE YOU
THERE?

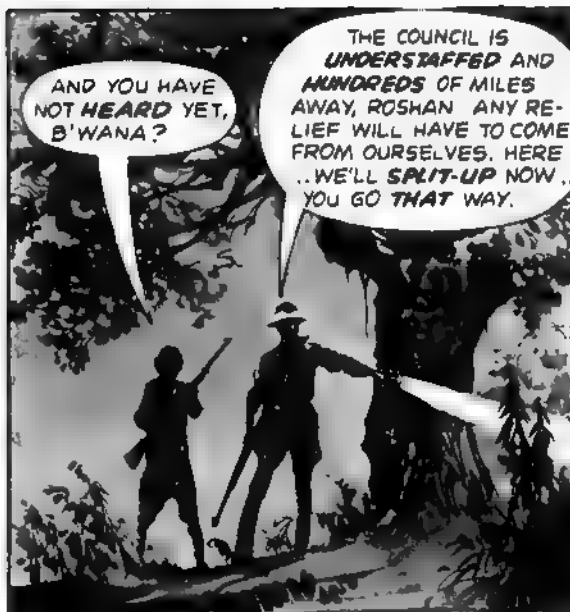


APRIL 12, 1898: COUNCIL OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS-- DEAR SIR-- MY CAMP IN TSAVO IS BEING PLAGUED BY A LION OR PRIDE OF LIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF THREE OF MY BEST MEN. I REQUEST IMMEDIATE SUPPORT FROM THE MILITIA IN KINSINGTON IN AN EFFORT TO...



AND YOU HAVE NOT HEARD YET, B'WANA?

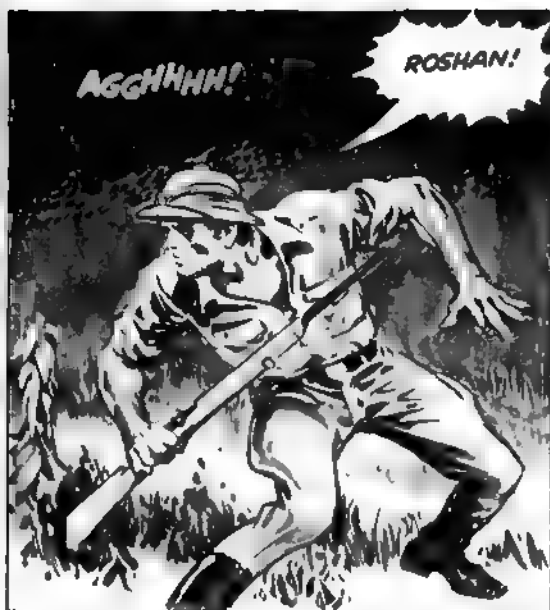
THE COUNCIL IS UNDERSTAFFED AND HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY, ROSHAN. ANY RELIEF WILL HAVE TO COME FROM OURSELVES. HERE... WE'LL SPLIT-UP NOW... YOU GO THAT WAY.



APRIL 13, 1898: DARLING E LAINE-- A WEEK BEHIND SCHEDULE! HALF MY COOLIES ARE TERRIFIED OVER THIS LION THING!



I'VE LOST SIX MEN TO THE BRUTES AND HAVE YET TO SEE EVEN A BRIEF GLANCE OF ONE! IT'S AS IF THE BLOODY THINGS ARE INVISIBLE!



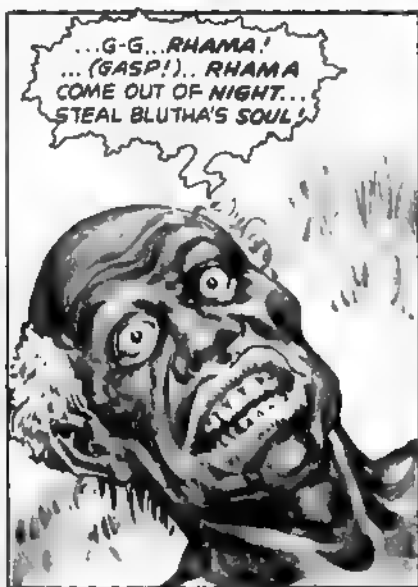
AGGHHHH!

ROSHAN!



ROSHAN!

IT IS THE COOK, BLUTHA, B'WANA! HE IS DYING...



...G-G... RHAMA! ... (GASP!)... RHAMA COME OUT OF NIGHT... STEAL BLUTHA'S SOUL!



HE'S GONE

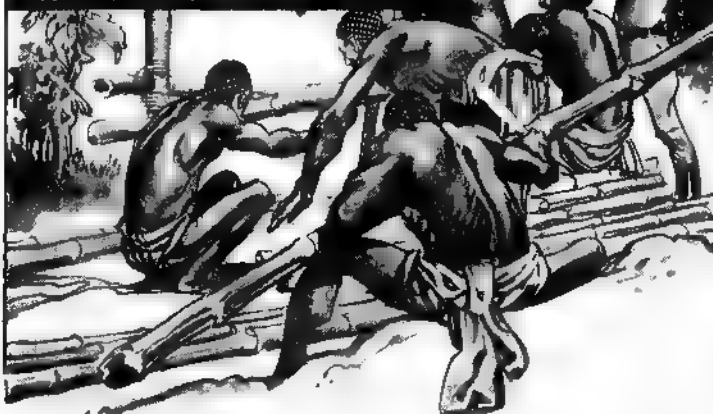
WHAT IS "RHAMA," ROSHAN?

HIM DEVIL SPIRIT... STEAL SOULS! THIS VERY BAD, B'WANA! OTHER'S NOT LIKE IT WHEN THEY HEAR RHAMA IN JUNGLE!



COME ON, ROSHAN. WE'LL SEE HOW THIS RHAMA LIKES THE INSIDE OF A BAMBOO TRAP!

APRIL 15, 1898: DARLING ELAINE -- HAVE LOST TEN MEN. IF PROGRESS IS DELAYED MUCH LONGER, I SHALL RECEIVE NO MORE SUPPORT FROM THE COAST AND THE RAILWAY WILL HAVE FAILED. I LIVE IN AGONY OF YOUR FATHER'S RETRIBUTION...



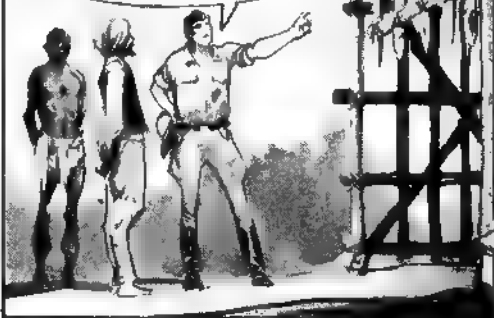
APRIL 30, 1898: DEAREST RICHARD -- NEVER MIND FATHER! COME HOME NOW! ABANDON THIS FUTILE PROJECT!...



... IT CAN ONLY MEAN MORE HORROR, MORE DEATHS! I WAS INSANE TO LET YOU GO! MY DARLING, I IMPLORE YOU...!

WHATEVER ENTERS THROUGH THIS GATE WILL NEVER LEAVE AGAIN!

ALL RIGHT, ROSHAN, BAIT IT WITH A GOAT AND LEAVE TWO ARMED MEN ON GUARD IN THE BRUSH ALL NIGHT.



APRIL 16, 1898: DARLING ELAINE--I FEEL CONFIDENT NOW THAT WE SHALL CAPTURE THE CREATURE. YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT IS LIKE BEING THIS CLOSE TO AN ANIMAL YOU HAVE COME TO LOATHE...



BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

ROSHAN!
MY GUN,
QUICKLY!



BLAM! BLAM!

AAAGGHHHH!

HURRY!



... LORD...



...C-CAME OUT
OF...NOWHERE, B'WANA
...DID NOT HEAR HIM...
SILENT AS NIGHT...BIG...
BIG AS A MOUNTAIN...

WHAT WAS IT,
ULLA? A LION? WAS
T A LION?

...RHAMA...

WHAT ARE
THEY DOING,
ROSHAN?

THEY WORK NO
MORE! THEY SAY RHAMA NO
WANT IRON SNAKE IN JUNGLE.
THEY SAY RHAMA KILL ALL
PEOPLE UNLESS IRON SNAKE
GO AWAY!

LISTEN TO ME! YOU
MUST GO BACK TO WORK
NOW! THIS IS NOT YOUR GOD
RHAMA! IT IS SIMPLY A
HUNGRY LION WITH A TASTE
FOR HUMAN FLESH!

IF WE STAY HERE
IT WILL ONLY CONTINUE
TO USE THIS WORK SITE
AS A FEEDING GROUND!
--AN EASY SOURCE OF
NOURISHMENT! DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?

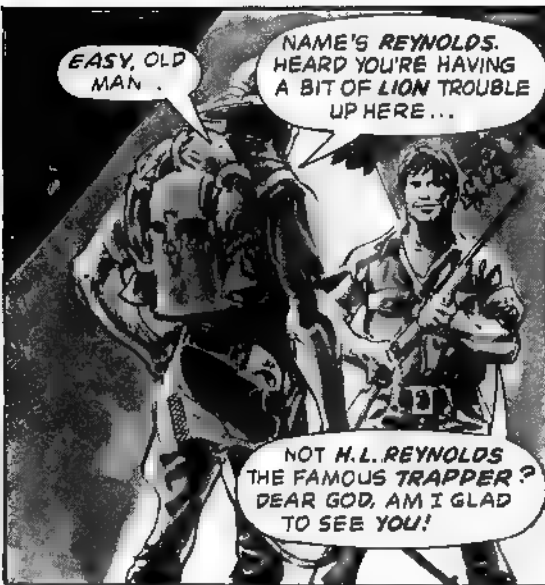
MAY 2: DARLING ELAINE -- I FEAR
FAILURE. WE ARE HOPELESSLY BE-
HIND SCHEDULE. MOST OF THE COOLIES
HAVE ABANDONED US. A FEW REMAIN
BECAUSE WE GIVE THEM FOOD. BUT
EVEN SO, WE LOSE ANOTHER MAN EACH
WEEK... I AM AT A COMPLETE LOSS...

YET THOUGH THEY ARE SNATCHED
FROM BENEATH MY VERY NOSE, I
AM POWERLESS TO FIND EVEN A
TRACE OF THE CREATURE...

AND KNOWING ALL THE WHILE
THAT AT ANY MOMENT IT MIGHT
ENTER MY TENT SILENTLY AS I
LAY SLEEPING... PAD SOFTLY TO
MY COT LIKE A DUN SHADOW...
BEND OVER ME AND--

...WORST OF ALL, I CAN HEAR THE
MONSTEROUS THING CREEPING AROUND
THE CAMP AT NIGHT PICKING OUT ITS
NEXT VICTIM.

AGH!



EASY, OLD MAN.

NAME'S REYNOLDS. HEARD YOU'RE HAVING A BIT OF LION TROUBLE UP HERE...

NOT H.L. REYNOLDS THE FAMOUS TRAPPER? DEAR GOD, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!



MAY 3, 1898: DARLING ELAINE -- TERRIFIC LUCK! HAROLD REYNOLDS THE WORLD RENOWNED HUNTER HAS CONSENTED TO HELP ME TRACK THE BEAST! WE MAY YET SUCCEED!

HERE'S A TRACK NOW! EGAD! WHAT A BRUTE! NEVER SEEN ONE LARGER! WE'VE GOT OUR HANDS FULL ALL RIGHT! HE'S A ROGUE BY THE LOOK OF HIM!

ONLY ONE WAY TO CATCH A LION THAT SIZE: A PIT!



GATHER UP YOUR SIX REMAINING BOYS AND WE'LL GET TO WORK ON IT--HAVE THIS RASCAL BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OUT!

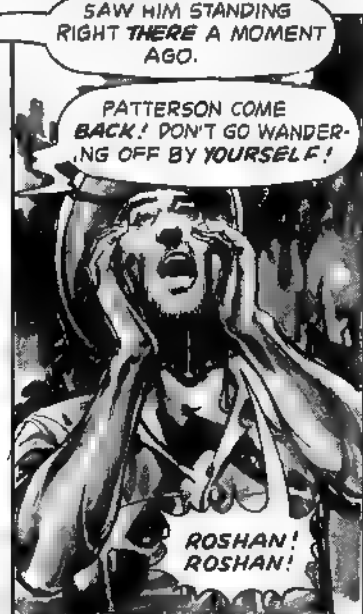
RIGHT! ROSHAN! GET THE OTHERS!



THAT'S IT BOYS! MAKE HER DEEP!

LET'S HAVE THE MEASURING ROD, ROSHAN!

ROSHAN? WHERE IS HE?



SAW HIM STANDING RIGHT THERE A MOMENT AGO.

PATTERSON COME BACK! DON'T GO WANDERING OFF BY YOURSELF!

ROSHAN! ROSHAN!



ROSHAN!



RO--UH!



ROSHAN!

...B'WANA...HE COME!... FROM DARKNESS... SILENT AS WIND... HE DEVIL, B'WANA... HE COME AGAIN... FOR YOU NEXT TIME...

...RUN, B'WANA... RUN FAR AWAY... ROSHAN CAN'T PROTECT YOU NOW...



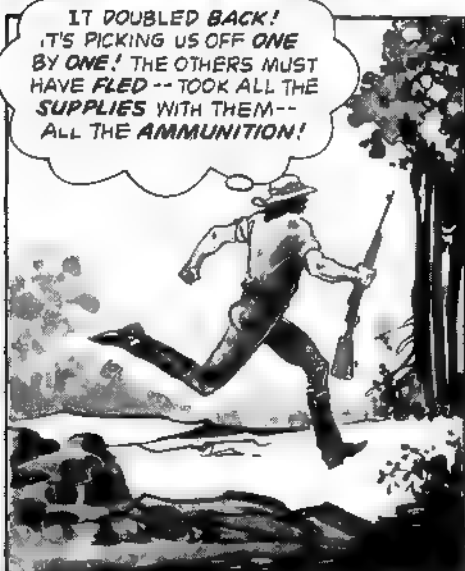
REYNOLDS! REYNOLDS!
HE GOT ROSHAN! DRAGGED
HIM OFF BEHIND US!

REYNOLDS?



REYNOLDS!
NO! NO!

...OH
LORD



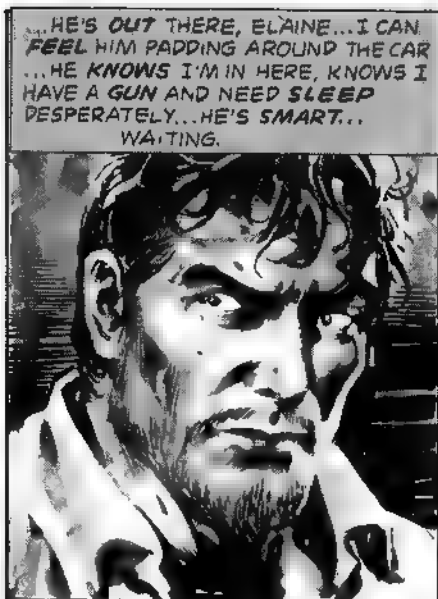
IT DOUBLED BACK!
IT'S PICKING US OFF ONE
BY ONE! THE OTHERS MUST
HAVE FLED -- TOOK ALL THE
SUPPLIES WITH THEM--
ALL THE AMMUNITION!



I DON'T STAND
A CHANCE IN THE
OPEN! THE TRAIN
CAR!!



RIGHT OUTSIDE THE DOOR NOW...
CAN HEAR HIM BREATHING! ONLY
THREE SHOTS IN THE GUN!...WHAT IF
I MISS?...CAN'T BEAR THIS WAITING!
...WHY DOESN'T HE ATTACK!...GET
IT OVER WITH!



...HE'S OUT THERE, ELAINE...I CAN
FEEL HIM PADDING AROUND THE CAR
...HE KNOWS I'M IN HERE, KNOWS I
HAVE A GUN AND NEED SLEEP
DESPERATELY...HE'S SMART...
WAITING.



HEAR MOVEMENT AT THE DOOR...
CAN SMELL HIM NOW!.. THE STENCH
OF DEATH!...BREATHING LOUDER
NOW... LOUDER!... SHADOW AT THE
DOOR!...ENORMOUS SHADOW!



AGGHHHHHHH!

JUNE 10, 1898



I SAY!
PATTERSON!
ARE YOU THERE!

HELLO, PATTERSON!
IT'S THE KINSINGTON
MILITIA! WE'VE BROUGHT
FRESH SUPPLIES AND YOUR
MAIL!

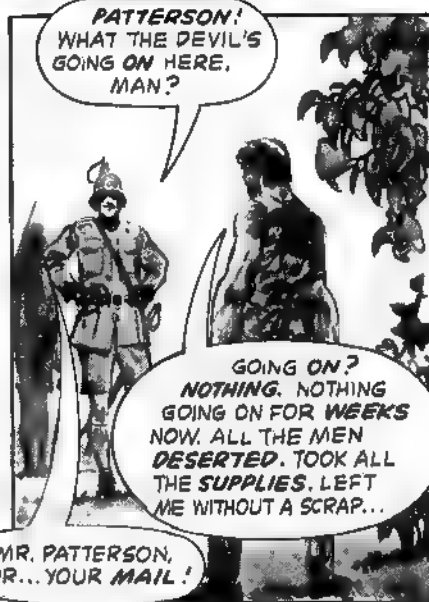


WHERE THE
DEVIL IS
EVERYONE?



I DON'T BLOODY WELL
GET IT! THERE'S SUPPOSE
TO BE A HUNDRED MEN
WORKING ON A RAILWAY
PROJECT HERE! WHERE
THE *DUECE*--

SIR, OVER
THERE...



PATTERSON!
WHAT THE DEVIL'S
GOING ON HERE,
MAN?

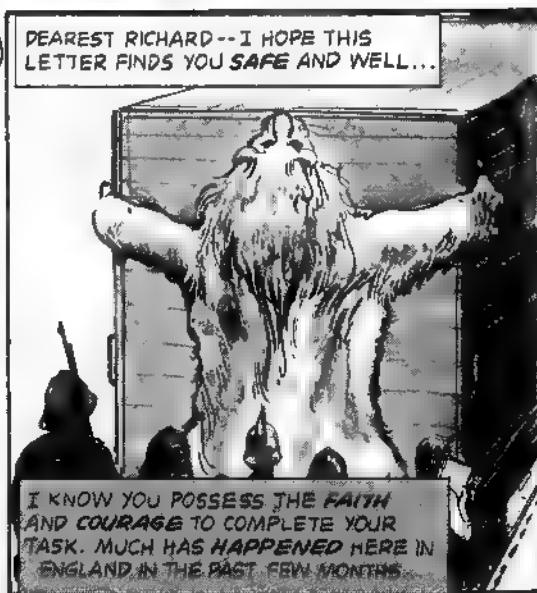
GOING ON?
NOTHING. NOTHING
GOING ON FOR WEEKS
NOW. ALL THE MEN
DESERTED. TOOK ALL
THE SUPPLIES. LEFT
ME WITHOUT A SCRAP...

MR. PATTERSON,
SIR... YOUR MAIL!



WITHOUT FOOD?
GOOD LORD, MAN, WHAT
DID YOU LIVE ON?

LIVE ON? THE
LION, OF COURSE...
COME, I'LL SHOW
YOU...



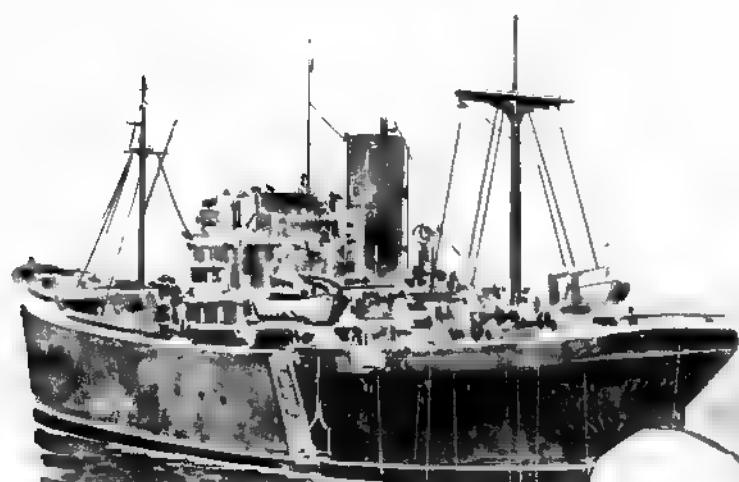
DEAREST RICHARD--I HOPE THIS
LETTER FINDS YOU SAFE AND WELL...

I KNOW YOU POSSESS THE FAITH
AND COURAGE TO COMPLETE YOUR
TASK. MUCH HAS HAPPENED HERE IN
ENGLAND IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS



...I WAS MARRIED IN
BRIGHTON LAST WEEK
TO EDWARD HODGES.
YOU MAY REMEMBER
HIM FROM SCHOOL. ALL
THE BEST TO YOU AND
YOUR ENDEAVOURS IN
AFRICA PLEASE COME
VISIT US WHEN YOU
ARE HOME. FONDLY,
ELAINE.

FAIR PREY



ANY
MOVEMENT,
MR. HAWKINS?

NOT A THING, SIR!
IT APPEARS SHE'S ADRIFT
JUST AS WE THOUGHT.
I'LL TRY THE LOUD-
HAILER ONE MORE TIME!

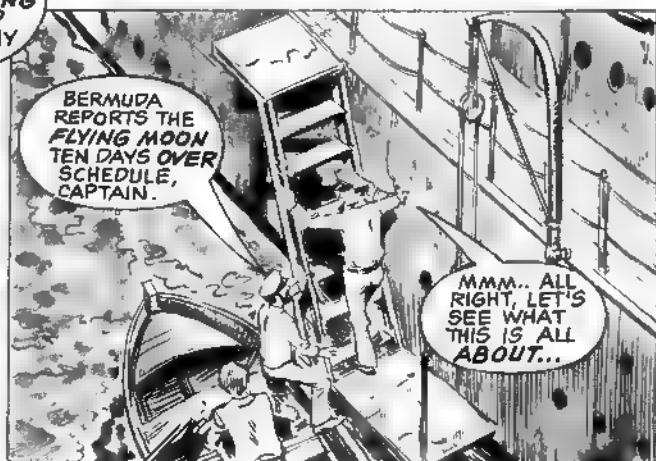
AHOY THERE!
AHOY THERE FLYING
MOON! DID YOU RECEIVE
OUR MESSAGE? IS THERE
ANYONE ABOARD?

BELAY THAT, MR. HAWKINS
IT'S DOING NO GOOD. HAVE A
LONG BOAT PUT OVER THE SIDE
AND LET'S SEE WHAT'S BREWING
ABOARD THAT RELIC. YOU AND
MR. PETERS WILL ACCOMPANY
ME!

OH, AND
CHECK WITH
BERMUDA
AGAIN ABOUT
ANY SHIPS
REPORTED
MISSING
AT SEA.

BERMUDA
REPORTS THE
FLYING MOON
TEN DAYS OVER
SCHEDULE,
CAPTAIN.

MMM... ALL
RIGHT, LET'S
SEE WHAT
THIS IS ALL
ABOUT...





DEAD!
EVERY BLOODY
ONE OF THEM!
LORD, THE
SMELL...

WE'VE CHECKED MOST
OF THE LOWER DECKS,
SIR SAME THING SO FAR.
NOT A MAN LIVING...
BEEN DEAD PERHAPS...
EIGHT HOURS...

WHAT WOULD YOU
SAY, MR HAWKINS?
...TROPICAL DISEASE?
PLAGUE?

WHATEVER IT
WAS, IT HAPPENED
SIMULTANEOUSLY
ALL OVER THE SHIP
NO DISTRESS
SIGNAL WAS RE-
CEIVED ON THE
MAINLAND.

WELL,
PETERS?

IN HERE,
SIR, WE'VE
FOUND A
LIVE ONE.

UHHH...

I'M CAPTAIN ROBERT
MITCHELL, MISS OF THE
GOLDEN CONDOR,
CAN YOU HEAR ME?

SHE'S DELIRIOUS,
SIR. TAKE A LOOK AT
THIS... WE FOUND THEM
SCATTERED ALL OVER
THE ROOM. PECULIAR
THINGS.. LOOK FAMILIAR
SOMEHOW. I KNOW
I'VE SEEN THEM
SOMEWHERE BEFORE...

COME IN, BOB
I THINK SHE'S
COMING
AROUND.

I DID EXTREMELY
INTERESTING, ESPECIALLY
THE PART ABOUT THEIR
BODIES BEING DRAINED
ENTIRELY OF BLOOD...

I SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN BETTER
THAN TO LOAN YOU
THAT COPY OF
DRACULA...!

YOU, UH... READ
MY REPORT
ON THE REST
OF THE FLYING
MOON'S CREW?

I DIDN'T MAKE IT UP
BOB. I DON'T PLAY PRAC-
TICE JOKES WITH MY
MEDICAL REPORTS. THE
STATEMENTS ARE ACCURATE,
FANTASTIC AS THEY ARE!



WHAT DO
YOU MAKE
OF IT,
SKIPPER?

I'M NOT SURE...
CURIOUS, MIGHT BE
AN AMPULE OF
SOME KIND USED
TO SHIP MEDICINE
OR DRUGS...

MR HAWKINS, SEE
THAT THIS WOMAN
IS TAKEN ABOARD
THE CONDOR IMMEDI-
ATELY AND GIVEN
PROMPT MEDICAL
ATTENTION.

ANY
LUCK,
BEN?



WHAT ABOUT HER... WHY ISN'T SHE DEAD?

FOR ONE THING, HER BLOOD WAS **INTACT**... A BIT UNDERNOURISHED PERHAPS... BUT **ALL THERE!**

MISS? MISS? ARE YOU FEELING BETTER NOW?



MY... MY **BABY**... DID I HAVE MY **BABY** YET?

BABY? I'M AFRAID THERE IS NO **BABY**, MAM. WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

CAN YOU TELL US WHAT **THESE** ARE?



EASY, BOB...

JUST RELAX NOW AND BEGIN AT THE **BEGINNING**... TRY TO REMEMBER YOUR **NAME**... WHERE YOU WERE GOING ON THE **FLYING MOON**...

MY... **BABY**... I WAS GOING TO HAVE MY **BABY**... **PAUL**... **PAUL** SAID HE WOULDN'T LET IT GET MY **BABY**...

WHO IS **PAUL**?

PAUL... DEAR, SWEET **PAUL**. I... I CAN STILL **SEE** HIM... THAT FIRST DAY WE MET ON THE **BEACH**...



AHOY THERE, **PAUL**! WELCOME TO **TREASURE ISLAND**! FOUND YOUR **SEA** LESS YET?

ABOARD THAT RUST HEAP? YOU **KIDDING**? HOW ARE YOU, **FRANK**? YOU LOOK **GREAT**!

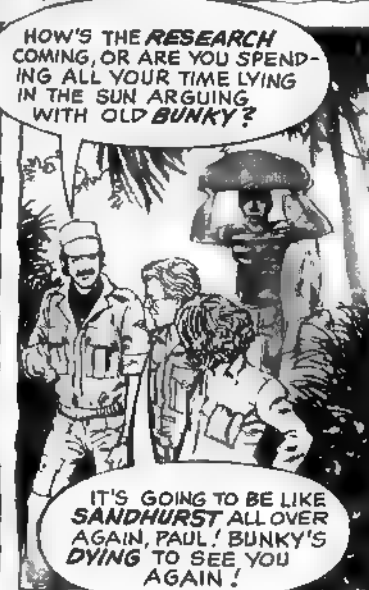


SORRY BUT THE **FLYING MOON**'S THE **ONLY** SHIP THAT COMES WITHIN **MILES** OF THIS ISOLATED PLACE AND WE CAN'T BE **CHOOSEY**!

I WANT YOU TO MEET MY WIFE, **BEA**... **BEA**, MY OLD COLLEGE ROOMY, **PAUL WESTLY**!

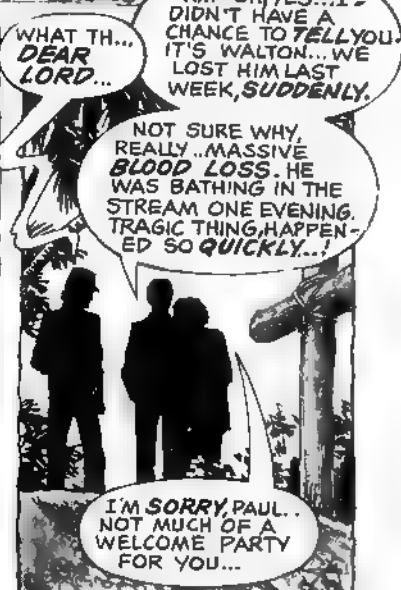
MY PLEASURE, **PAUL**. I HOPE YOU LIKE **COCONUT MILK**!

HA-HA-LEAD ON!



HOW'S THE **RESEARCH** COMING, OR ARE YOU SPENDING ALL YOUR TIME LYING IN THE SUN ARGUING WITH OLD **BUNKY**?

IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE **SANDHURST** ALL OVER AGAIN, **PAUL**! **BUNKY**'S DYING TO SEE YOU AGAIN!



WHAT TH... DEAR LORD...

HM? OH, YES... I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO TELL YOU. IT'S **WALTON**... WE LOST HIM LAST WEEK, **SUDDENLY**.

NOT SURE WHY, REALLY... **MASSIVE BLOOD LOSS**. HE WAS BATHING IN THE STREAM ONE EVENING. **TRAGIC THING, HAPPENED SO QUICKLY**...

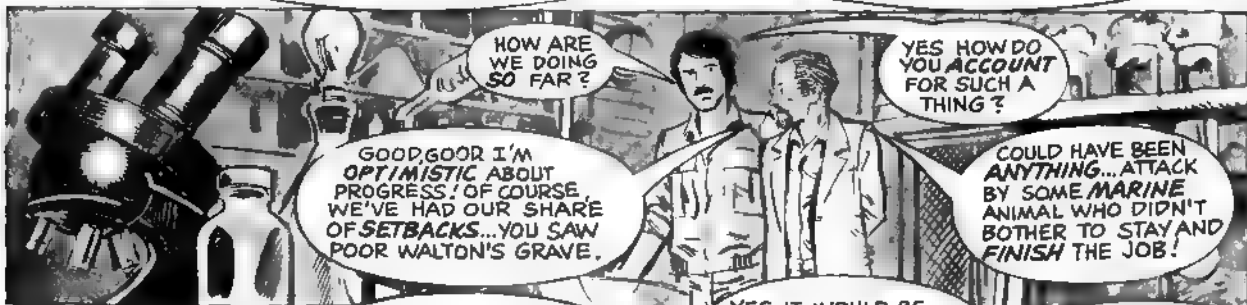
I'M **SORRY**, **PAUL**. NOT MUCH OF A WELCOME PARTY FOR YOU...



DR. BUNKER!
GOOD TO SEE
YOU AGAIN,
SIR!

PAUL, MY STAR PUPIL! WELCOME
TO THE MOST HUMID STRETCH OF
LAND IN THE PACIFIC! IF EVER
THERE WAS AN ATMOSPHERE
FOR GROWING CANCER CURING
CULTURES, THIS IS IT!

AS YOU CAN SEE, EVERYONE'S
HERE: LANSING, WINTERS, HOMBERG,
CLINTON, SMITH! STOW YOUR GEAR
IN THE COMPOUND AND I'LL SHOW
YOU AROUND!

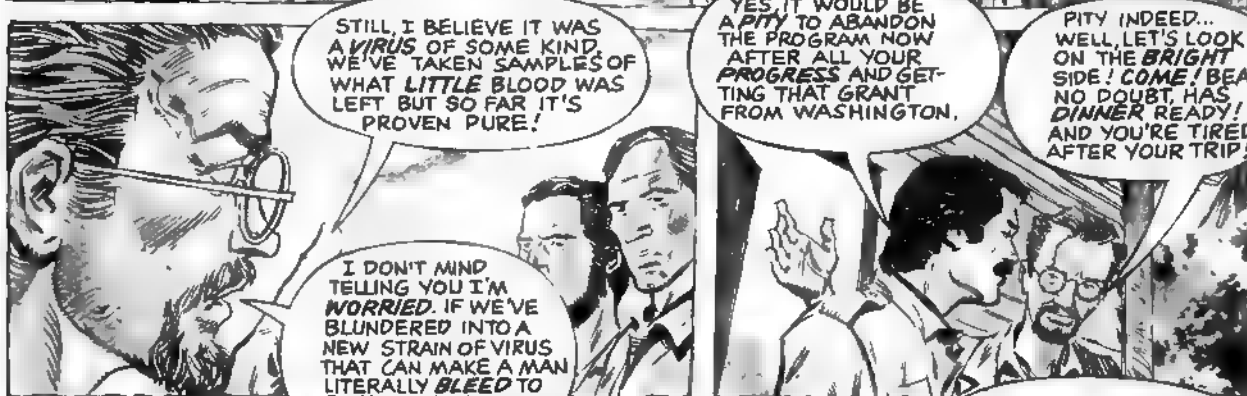


HOW ARE
WE DOING
SO FAR?

YES HOW DO
YOU ACCOUNT
FOR SUCH A
THING?

GOOD GOOD I'M
OPTIMISTIC ABOUT
PROGRESS! OF COURSE
WE'VE HAD OUR SHARE
OF SETBACKS... YOU SAW
POOR WALTON'S GRAVE.

COULD HAVE BEEN
ANYTHING... ATTACK
BY SOME MARINE
ANIMAL WHO DIDN'T
BOTHER TO STAY AND
FINISH THE JOB!

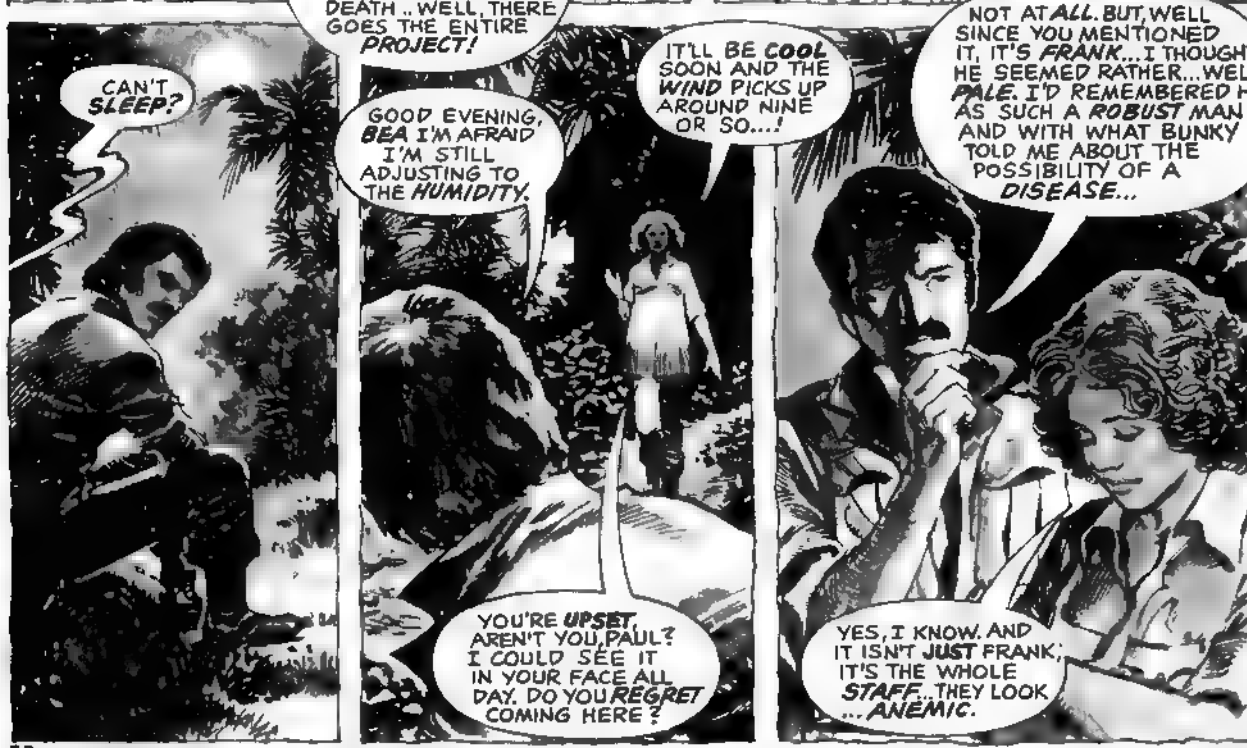


STILL, I BELIEVE IT WAS
A VIRUS OF SOME KIND.
WE'VE TAKEN SAMPLES OF
WHAT LITTLE BLOOD WAS
LEFT BUT SO FAR IT'S
PROVEN PURE!

YES, IT WOULD BE
A PITY TO ABANDON
THE PROGRAM NOW
AFTER ALL YOUR
PROGRESS AND GET-
TING THAT GRANT
FROM WASHINGTON.

PITY INDEED...
WELL, LET'S LOOK
ON THE BRIGHT
SIDE! COME! BEA,
NO DOUBT, HAS
DINNER READY!
AND YOU'RE TIRED
AFTER YOUR TRIP!

I DON'T MIND
TELLING YOU I'M
WORRIED. IF WE'VE
BLUNDERED INTO A
NEW STRAIN OF VIRUS
THAT CAN MAKE A MAN
LITERALLY BLEED TO
DEATH... WELL, THERE
GOES THE ENTIRE
PROJECT!



CAN'T
SLEEP?

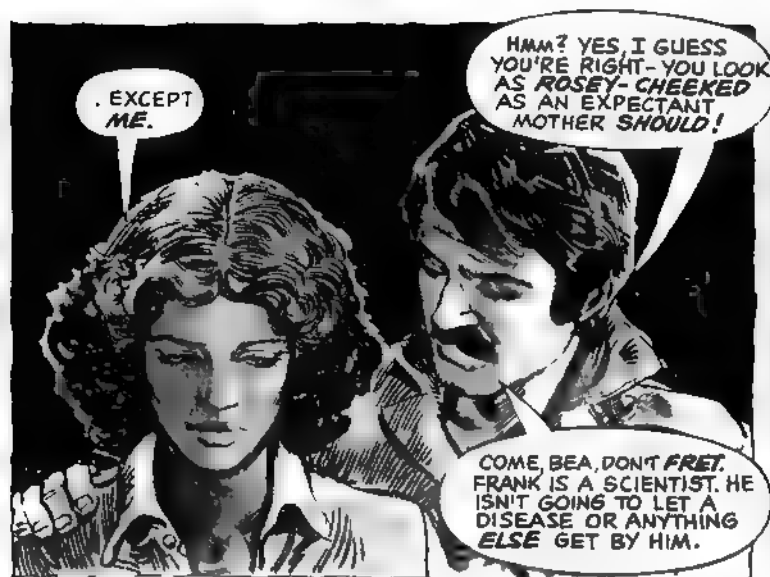
GOOD EVENING,
BEA. I'M AFRAID
I'M STILL
ADJUSTING TO
THE HUMIDITY.

IT'LL BE COOL
SOON AND THE
WIND PICKS UP
AROUND NINE
OR SO...!

NOT AT ALL. BUT, WELL,
SINCE YOU MENTIONED
IT, IT'S FRANK... I THOUGHT
HE SEEMED RATHER... WELL,
PALE. I'D REMEMBERED HIM
AS SUCH A ROBUST MAN.
AND WITH WHAT BUNKY
TOLD ME ABOUT THE
POSSIBILITY OF A
DISEASE...

YOU'RE UPSET,
AREN'T YOU, PAUL?
I COULD SEE IT
IN YOUR FACE ALL
DAY. DO YOU REGRET
COMING HERE?

YES, I KNOW. AND
IT ISN'T JUST FRANK;
IT'S THE WHOLE
STAFF. THEY LOOK
... ANEMIC.



EXCEPT ME.

HMM? YES I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT- YOU LOOK AS ROSEY-CHEEKED AS AN EXPECTANT MOTHER SHOULD!

COME, BEA, DON'T FRET. FRANK IS A SCIENTIST. HE ISN'T GOING TO LET A DISEASE OR ANYTHING ELSE GET BY HIM.

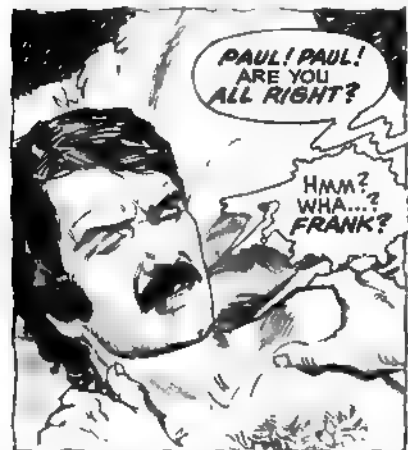


MMMMMMMMMM

WHAT'S THAT?

THE WIND I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT HUMMING THROUGH THE CAN-ABAN TREES. IT MUST BE NEARLY NINE...

(YAWN)... RATHER A SOOTHING SOUND, ISN'T IT? YOU SHOULD SLEEP LIKE A BABY NOW, SPEAKING OF WHICH, I'M GOING TO TUCK ME AND MINE BENEATH THE COVERS. G'NIGHT, PAUL.



PAUL! PAUL! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

HMM? WHA...? FRANK?



YES...YES YOU'RE OKAY. THANK GOD!

WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S HAPPENED?

PULL ON YOUR SLACKS AND FOLLOW ME...



MY GOD!

CLINTON... FOUND HIM JUST NOW HE'S DEAD.



IT'S THE SAME AS WITH POOR WALTON, I'M AFRAID. EVERY DROP OF BLOOD DRAINED... FRANK, YOU'D BETTER RADIO THE MAINLAND FOR A SEA PLANE. WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!



I TELL YOU IT'S UNDENIABLE! THERE'S ONLY ONE CREATURE CAPABLE OF DRAINING A MAN'S BLOOD AND WE ALL KNOW WHAT IT IS!

YOU'RE TALKING MYTH AND LEGEND, MARK- IN SHORT, NONSENSE! NONE OF US HERE CAN ACCEPT THAT. WE'RE SCIENTISTS, FOR GOD'S SAKE!



WELL, LET SOMEBODY COME UP WITH A BETTER THEORY! LET'S FIGHT THE CREATURE! WE CAN'T SIMPLY PULL UP STAKES! THE WORLD IS DEPENDING ON US!

AND WHAT PROCEDURE WOULD YOU SUGGEST, LANCING? GARLIC AND CRUCIFIXES OVER ALL OUR BEDS?

IF NEED BE,
YES! AND IN
THE MEANTIME,
WE LOOK FOR
THE CREATURE'S
LAIR! AND WHEN
WE FIND HIS
COFFIN WE...

...DRIVE A STAKE
THROUGH HIS HEART?
REALLY I'M SURPRISED
AT YOU, LANCING!

CANCEL THAT CALL
TO THE MAINLAND,
FRANK. WE'LL GIVE
IT THREE DAYS. IF NO
PROGRESS IS MADE
OR IF ANY MORE AC-
CIDENTS OCCUR, WE
LEAVE. AGREED?

STILL, I AGREE WE
MAY BE **PREMATURE**
IN ABANDONING THE
PROJECT I SUGGEST WE
POST A NIGHTLY **GUARD**,
RESTRICT OURSELVES TO
COMPOUND FOOD AND
ACTIVITY AND THROW ALL
OUR EFFORTS INTO **RE-**
SOLVING THE IMMEDIATE
PROBLEM!

**KNOCK
KNOCK**

PAUL?
ARE YOU
BUSY?

COME
IN, BEA.

ANY LUCK
YET?

(SIGH) CLINTON'S BLOOD
TESTS THE SAME AS
WALTON'S... **PURE** AS
THE DRIVEN SNOW,
EXCEPT FOR NORMAL
BACTERIA.

IT SIMPLY CAN'T
BE A VIRUS. I'M
BEGINNING TO SIDE
WITH LANCING AND
HIS **VAMPIRE**
THEORIES.

GOT A MINUTE
FOR AN EVEN
STRANGER
ENIGMA?

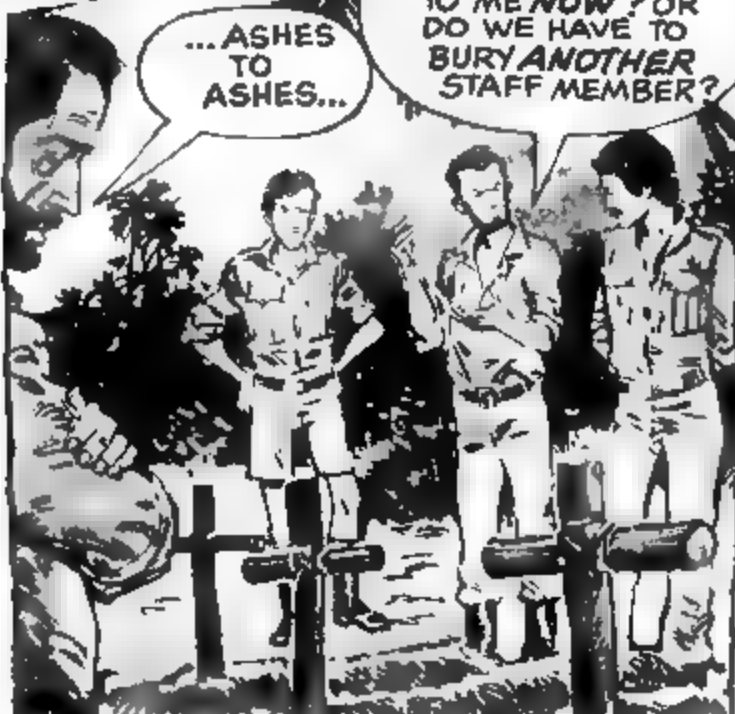
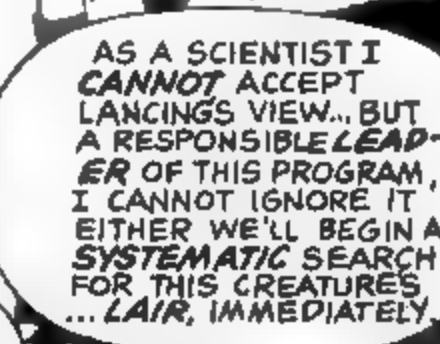
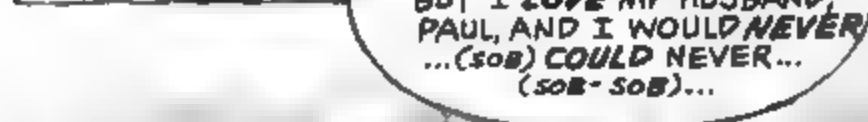
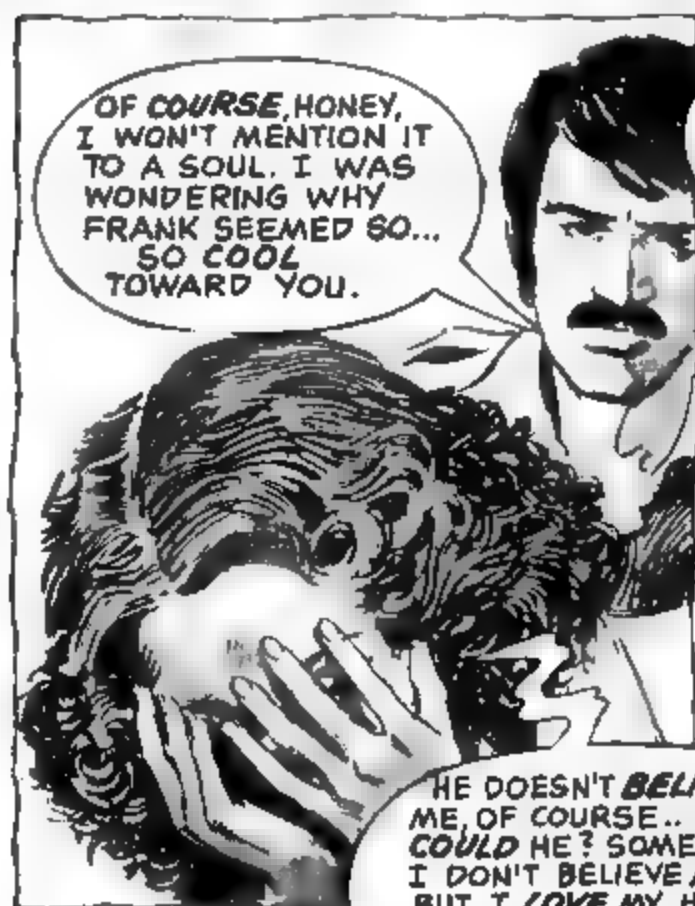
WHAT
IS IT?

THIS ISN'T
FRANK'S
BABY.

...I...

BEFORE YOU JUMP TO
ANY **CONCLUSIONS**, LET
ME SAY THAT I HAVE
NEVER BEEN UNFAITHFUL
TO MY HUSBAND, PAUL...
NOT **KNOWINGLY** ANYWAY.

BUT THE **BABY**
ISN'T FRANKS...
HE ISN'T **CAPABLE**
OF PRODUCING
CHILDREN...!





JUST LET ME KNOW
IF I **SNORE**... I'LL TAKE
THE **FIRST** WATCH, YOU
GET SOME SLEEP.

POOR PAUL. WHEN YOU
VOLUNTEERED YOUR IDEA
OF **DOUBLING UP** AT
NIGHT, YOU DIDN'T PLAN
ON GETTING **STUCK** WITH
A PREGNANT WIDOW...



AM I **COMPLAINING**?
IF THAT **GARLIC** GETS
TOO STRONG I CAN
REMOVE SOME OF IT.

MMMMMMMMMM

zzzzzzzz



NO NEED WITH
THAT **LULLABY**
WIND IN THE
TREES I'LL BE
GONE IN A FEW
MINUTES. WAKE
ME WHEN IT'S
MY TURN...



AAAGGGHH

WHA. ?

IT'S **LANCING**! I...
I WAS SUPPOSED
TO BE ON WATCH
BUT... THAT DAMN
WIND... SO
MESMERIZING...



YOU'RE LOOKING
PARTICULARLY
RADIANT TONIGHT,
BEA, DEAR...

WHAT'S
THAT
SUPPOSED
TO MEAN?

IT MEANS THAT
OF **ALL** OF US, YOU'RE
THE **ONLY** ONE HERE
EMANATING THE **PINK**
GLOW OF HEALTH...

UH!

YOU
BZZZARD!

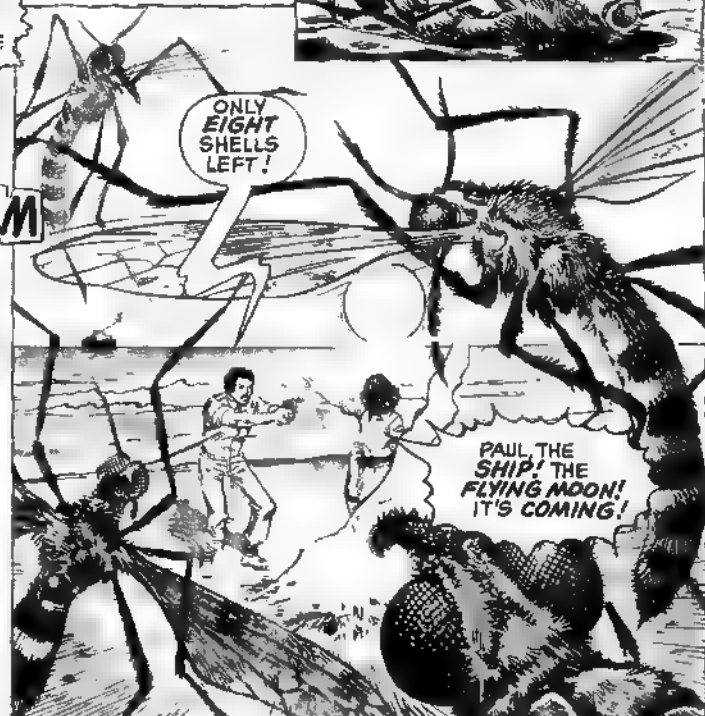
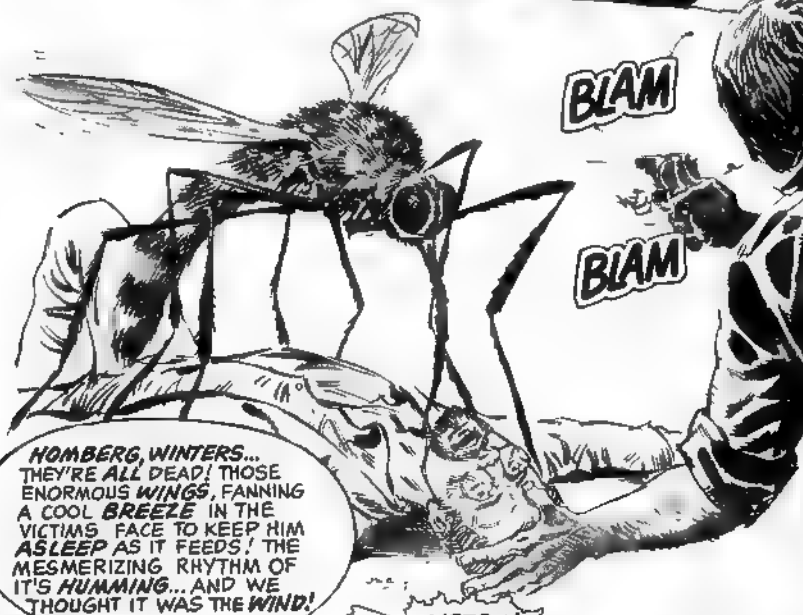
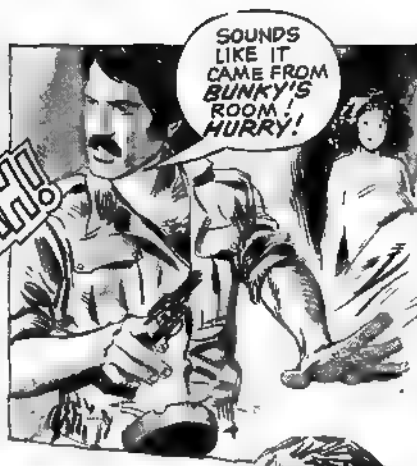


ENOUGH! WE'LL
ACCOMPLISH **NO-**
THING **SCRAPP-**
ING AMONG OURSELVES
THIS WAY!

I'M AFRAID
WE'LL ACCOMPLISH
NOTHING WITH A
MESSAGE EITHER
... **RADIO'S DEAD!**



WE'RE **STRANDED**
UNTIL THE **FLYING**
MOON ARRIVES
ON **FRIDAY**...!





THEY'RE LEAVING!

THE SUN! THEY CAN'T STAND THE SUN! WE'RE SAVED!



SWEET PAUL HE PROTECTED ME... HE GOT ME ABOARD THE SHIP...

MY BABY! DID I HAVE MY BABY YET?



SHE'S GONE UNDER AGAIN... BETTER LET HER REST.

YOUR MEN FIND ANY TRACES OF AN INFANT ABOARD THE MOON, BOB?

NO, NOTHING.

SHE MUST BE DELIRIOUS... CONFUSING THE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN HER LIFE... NOT SURPRISING IN HER STATE!



KNOCK KNOCK

IT'S PETER'S, SIR. I JUST REMEMBERED WHERE I'D SEEN THOSE PECULIAR CYLINDER-SHAPED THINGS BEFORE...

...IT WAS IN MY COLLEGE BIOLOGY BOOK. HERE. HERE'S A PICTURE OF ONE OF THEM...



MOSQUITO LARVAE! OF COURSE WHAT WE FOUND MUST BE SOMETHING ELSE,

WHY ANY MOSQUITO THAT EMERGED FROM ONE OF THOSE THINGS WOULD BE BIGGER THAN A...



MY GOD!

MR. HAWKINS! GET UNDER WAY IMMEDIATELY! I WANT THE CONDOR OUT OF THESE WATERS AT ONCE! DO YOU HEAR ME!

SHE WAS PREGNANT! ONE OF THOSE THINGS MUST HAVE... HAVE...



LISTEN!



MMMMMMMM

STAR WARS CHARM BRACELET

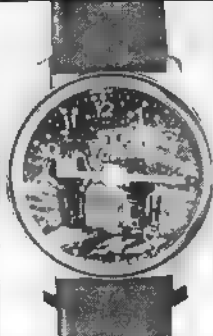


STAR WARS CHARM BRACELET

The two super heroes and one super villain of Star Wars face each other like three nemesis ready to do battle for cosmic causes. A five inch golden chain is the force which binds a 1/2" obelisk black Darth Vader to a golden 1" C3PO & to a detailed brushed chrome 1/2" R2D2. Great way to put the stars to bed! #26085/\$4.95

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DARTH VADER STICK PIN. nemesis of Obi Wan Kenobi and Luke Skywalker finds his way onto our pin in a glossy black obelisk version which glints in a deadly way. Let all know that you are not one to be fooled around with or to be taken lightly. May the Force be with you! 2 1/2" long! #26076/\$3.95



C3PO STICK PIN The foiled haired droid of the ultimate movie of all time proves to be the one that has it all. C3PO has a golden glow movable arms and has a 2 1/2" pin. Comes with pin cap for safety and long wear, & this fabulous piece of jewelry is going fast! #26088/\$3.95



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C3PO EARRINGS



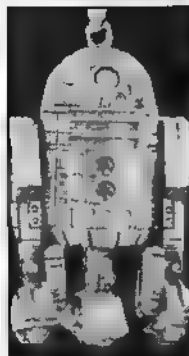
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CHEWBACCA PENDANT & CHAIN

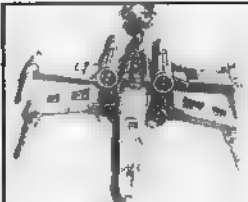


CHEWBACCA PENDANT & CHAIN An alien everyone loves to love. This 8" foot fighting machine charmed half the galaxy with his cuts and cuddly face, fur and fighting. Whether he's slashing his way out of Death Star or adroitly piloting the Millennium Falcon here's a guy you should have on your side! A wild and wookie time will be had by all! Big Brown metal 2" pendant, 18" chain! #26079/\$4.95

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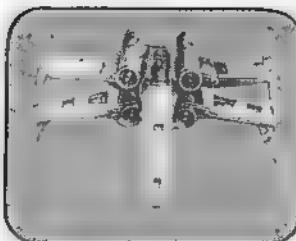
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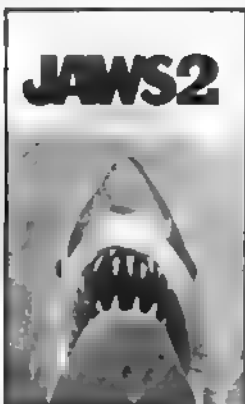
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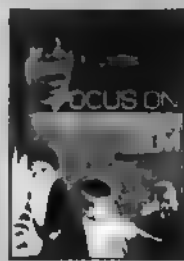
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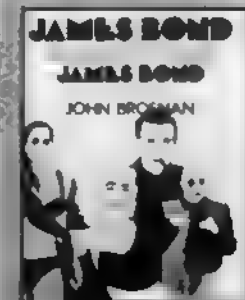
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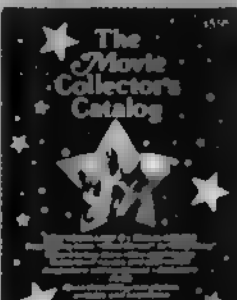
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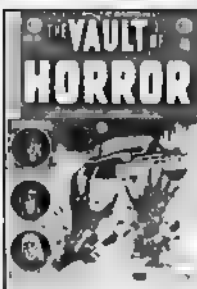
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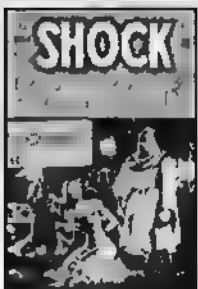
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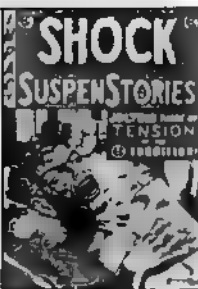
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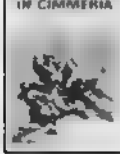
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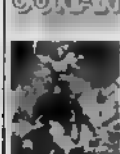
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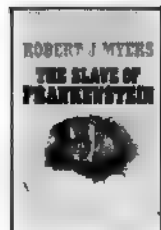


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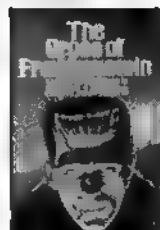
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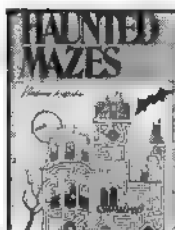
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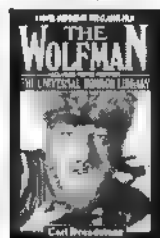
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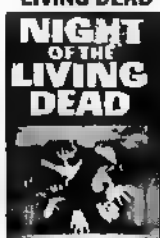
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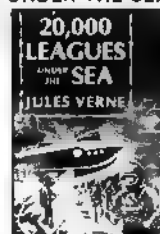
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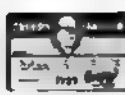
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SAVE YOUR CREEPY



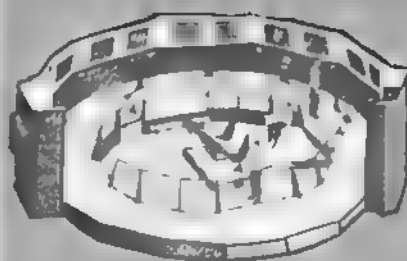
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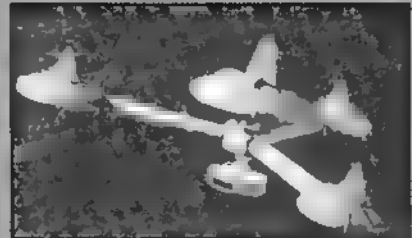
Stage your own amazing adventures on this fine model of the Enterprise's command bridge. The kit includes figures of Captain Kirk, Spock and Sulu. #24174 \$3.25

U.S.S. ENTERPRISE STARSHIP



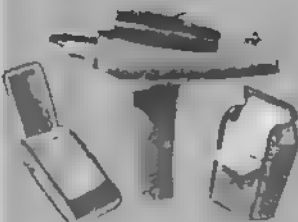
In all of its streamlined glory this is the Starship Enterprise! One of the most advanced starships ever designed it carries a crew of hundreds on its five year mission through space. Its purpose is to promote peace and understanding but it is a formidable adversary when attacked by a hostile force. The flagship for Starfleet is capable of Warp Drive, fires Laser Cannons and can launch Photon Torpedoes. You should have a model of this magnificent craft. When assembled it is a foot long! Well detailed! #2460 \$2.95

K-7 SPACE STATION



This triple hulled structure was a welcomed sight for many a starship crew. The model is a monster among model crafts. Assembled it is over 16" in diameter! Miniature Enterprise is also included. #24175 \$3.25

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The Star Trek Exploration Set comes with a Phaser Pistol, a Communicator, and a Tricorder. Built life-size, these 3 pieces come in one kit, each one is plastic and detailed. #24111/\$3.25

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The huge starship Enterprise was constructed solely to traverse the oceans of space and, therefore when a smaller craft was needed for a planetary or repair mission the Galileo was used. This exciting companion to your other Star Trek models is nearly a foot long. Carefully detailed. #24110/\$3.25

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Sworn enemy of the Federation of Planets, the deadly pirate of the spaceways fears no one including the Starship Enterprise. Whenever the two crafts meet in space a battle is certain to follow. Both Klingon and Enterprise are in scale (same size). #2461/\$2.50

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"Metamorphosis" means change but only if the godlike creature, The Companion, wills it. A story told in 300 full color photos. #21284/\$1.95



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"All Our Yesterdays" with a star about to explode Spock and McCoy are hung into a planet's ice age! A story told in 300 full color photos. #21286/\$1.95



STAR TREK PUZZLES A big 8 1/2 x 11 book of some of the most fascinating and mind boggling mazes, logic quizzes and puzzles. Even Vulcans are baffled. Photos and drawings. #21287/\$5.95



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Want a pair of Vulcan ears? What does NASA think about Star Trek? Other funny sometimes touching, funny. Hear Photos. #21230/\$1.95



STAR TREK NEW VOYAGES These latest have NOT been seen on TV. They are original stories. Each drama is introduced by a member of the cast. #21210/\$1.75



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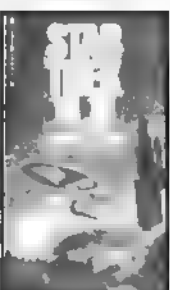
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By popular demand, another trilogy of tales. Once Upon a Planet. Wadd's Passion and The Wights of Megas. #21180/\$1.50



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Second in the latest series. Alan Dean Foster brings you The Survivor. The Lorien Signal and The Infinite Vulcan. #21179/\$1.50



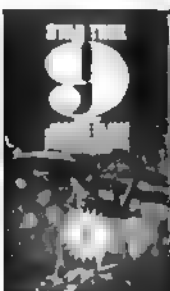
STAR TREK LOG ONE
Don't miss one of these parts. Beyond the Farthest Star. Yesterday and One of Our Planets is Missing. Adventure. #21156/\$1.50



STAR TREK ELEVEN
What are Little Girls Made of? Find out in this book. A war fought with swords not lasers. Day of the Devo. Also 4 others. #21183/\$1.25



STAR TREK TEN
Six thrill-packed adventures including 'Private Little War', 'The Empath', 'Omega Glory' and 'The Galactic Seven'. #21096/\$1.50



STAR TREK NINE
Why will Kirk die? He's lunched by the murderers' beauty? Find out in this series including 'The Ultimate Computer'. #21071/\$1.25



STAR TREK EIGHT
The Man's Dead. Jim McCoy said it but about whom? 'The Enemy Within', 'Cocoon & Spock's Brain' among others. #21037/\$1.50



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Read about the celestial being in our 'Who Moans for Adonais?' and 'The Paradise Syndrome' which are 2 of 6 parts. #21027/\$1.25



STAR TREK SIX
A hijacking in space or galaxy cannot be overlooked by you! Also read about 'The Savage Continues' and 'The Apple'. #21017/\$1.25



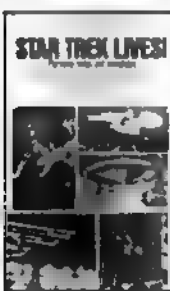
STAR TREK FIVE
A melody aboard the Enterprise in the plot of one story in this exciting collection 'Whom Gods Destroy' & 6 others. #21007/\$1.50



STAR TREK FOUR
Six more dazzling exploits featuring 'All Our Yesterdays', 'The Devil in the Dark' & 'A Piece of the Action'. Don't Miss. #21008/\$1.50



STAR TREK THREE
Spock goes crazy in 'Amok Time'. Also a profane battle scene and an open letter from the author. Get. #21005/\$1.50



STAR TREK LIVES! Personal notes and anecdotes about the creators are doing new goals for Star Trek's return. #21190/\$1.95



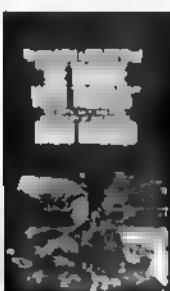
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Adaptation of 7 television episodes from various sources and uncharted worlds including 'Charlie's Law' & 'Miri'. #21184/\$1.50



SPOCK MUST DIE!
2 Spocks come through the transporter and one of them must die. Star-ship crew finds itself in the midst of an undeclared war. #21123/\$1.50



THE MAKING OF STAR TREK
The book on how to create for TV! Full of action-packed photos and advice on how to sell a script. 414 full-filled pages. #21008/\$1.95



TROUBLE WITH TRIBBLES
The birth, sale and final production of one episode. Scripts and photos of your favorite actors. #21065/\$1.95



THE WORLD OF STAR TREK
The show the network couldn't stop! David Barclay's inside look at the Star Trek phenomenon. Packed with photos. #21064/\$1.95

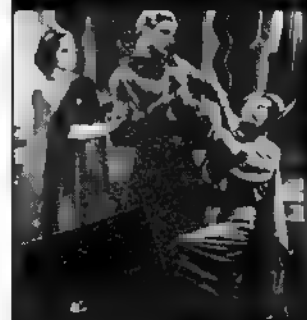
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STAR TREK CONCORDANCE



This huge (8½"x11") book is what fans have been asking for! Besides the fine drawings, the volume contains short synopses of every Star Trek episode from both the live action show and the animated cartoon series. Glossary included with definitions of the characters, devices and events from every Star Trek episode. A to ZOR! Order #21227/\$6.95

FROM JULES VERNE TO STAR TREK



SCIENCE FICTION

FILMBOOK

A ray sizzles from the nozzle of a laser pistol and a grotesque alien menace shudders then falls dead. Exciting, but is that all there is to the science fiction film? Not according to Jeff Rovin's penetrating book. Almost a hundred sci-fi films from the movies and TV are reviewed with Rovin's careful insight. Such popular classics as "Rottenball," "Planet of the Apes" and "2001 A Space Odyssey" are here as well as many minor gems. Over 100 photos. 8-1/2"x11" 192 pages. A must for fans. Softcover #21256/\$6.95

Star Trek sleeping bag

Star Trek sleeping bag is a terrific way to get into Star Trek & your own star studded dreamland! A go anywhere bag with reversible pull tabs, separating zippers, full of fluffy synthetic fiber - full for warmth without weight! Comes with drawstring see thru vinyl tote bag & color action scenes of Star Trek series! #26057/\$23.95

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Three exciting Star Trek stories on this LP record! Passage to Mowu" In Vino Veritas" "Crier in Emptiness" A original LP record #2378/\$2.98



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Earth is a burned planet. Logan and his family try to survive it. Sequel to Logan's Run. #21282/\$1.75



Read the true-life exploits of the special service cops called "Batman & Robin" #21098/\$1.50



Buck Rogers fights staggering odds in the total war of the 25th century! A classic! #21302/\$1.95



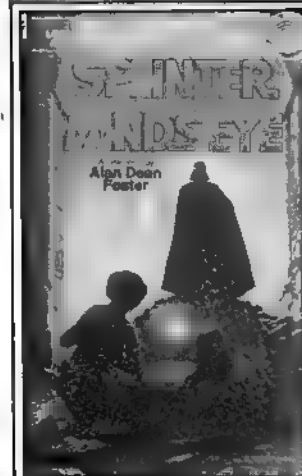
An exciting true story based on the career of a cop who no one could buy. Fast paced! #21097/\$1.75



Private eye, Sam Spade's greatest case. Murder over a priceless work of art. A thriller! #21102/\$1.25

NEW NEW NEW NEW N

MIND BENDING SPECTACULARS



SPLINTER OF THE MIND'S EYE Luke, his robots & Leia have more adventures on the secret planet Mimban. Deep in the heart of an ancient temple lies the power gem, the Kaiburr Crystal. A must for a Star Wars fan! #212971/\$1.95



THX1138 Based on George Lucas' screenplay "THX1138" this paperback novel adaptation contains all of the excitement, drama and adventure of the film original, as 25th century man battles robots for dominance. #21317/\$1.95

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**STAR WARS
FLYING
MODEL
ROCKETRY**



STAR WARS FLYING MODEL ROCKETRY KIT Blast off in hot pursuit of Darth Vader in a half hour of receiving this incredible kit! Battery separate. Ages 12 and up. #24201/\$12.95

STAR WARS MODELS

**DARTH VADER
COSTUME
& MASK**

DARTH VADER COSTUME & MASK Wear the hood, cape and mask of the insidious Sith Lord. Made of long-lasting vinyl, one size can fit a child of any age. The last of the Jedi Knights. Buy #26048/\$4.95

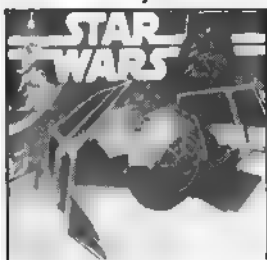


**R2-D2
MODEL KIT
Easy-to-build.**



R2-D2 MODEL KIT When he is constructed R2-D2 stands 8" high with a moveable head and legs. A must for fans! #24197/\$4.50

**DARTH VADER'S
TIE FIGHTER MODEL
KIT Easy-to-build.**



LORD DARTH VADER'S TIE FIGHTER MODEL KIT A highly detailed model kit of Darth Vader's own ship. When assembled the craft is 6 3/4" long with a 7 1/2" wing-span ready to defend the Dark Star from Rebel Forces. #24200/\$5.50

**C-3PO
MODEL KIT
Easy-to-build.**



C-3PO MODEL KIT The golden 'droid stands a full 10" tall when built! His body bends at the waist and his arms move. #24198/\$4.50

**X-WING FIGHTER
MODEL KIT
Easy-to-build.**



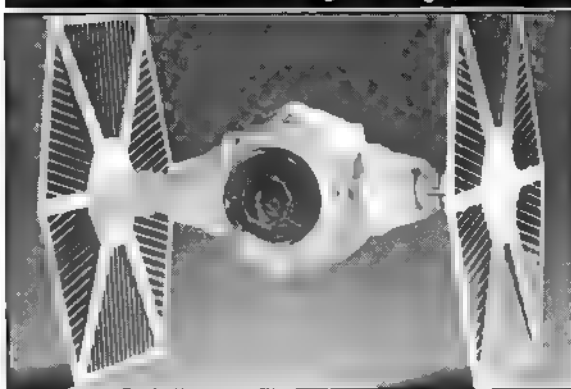
LUKE SKYWALKER X-WING FIGHTER MODEL KIT Sleek & savage! Here is the rebel ship which Luke piloted when he attacked Death Star. 12" from its nose to rear 10" wingspan. The X-Wings move from hold to combat ready. #24199/\$5.50

LUKE SKYWALKER'S EXCITING LANDSPEEDER VEHICLE Comes assembled. 9-1/2" long, 3" high.



LUKE SKYWALKER'S EXCITING LANDSPEEDER VEHICLE An authentic replica of Luke's desert roadster. The hood opens for access to the engine and a shift lever releases the spring loaded wheels which simulates floating ride. Passenger compartment can carry Action Figures. Fantastic! #24187/\$7.50

TIE FIGHTER SPACE CRAFT Comes assembled. 14" long, 12" high, 3" wide.



TIE FIGHTER SPACECRAFT Used by Darth Vader. The cockpit opens to allow an Action Figure to be seated. Solar panels may be ejected simulating battle damage and for defense the fighter has a laser light and emits a whining laser sound you control! #24186/\$15.95



**X-WING FIGHTER
9" long x 9" wide.
Already fully
assembled.**

X-WING FIGHTER Push down R2-D2's head, permanent navigator, and the wings open to combat position. The rear button engages the laser and sound. The cockpit canopy raises to open position so a Star Wars Action Figure might be seated in the fighter. A perfect spacecraft for destroying Death Star or for a battle with Darth Vader's deadly Tie Fighter. Buy Amazing! #24185/\$15.95

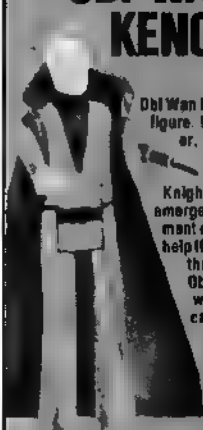
STAR WARS Action Figures

LUKE SKYWALKER



Luke Skywalker action figure
A hero to rebel worlds all through the galaxy, comes charging across the starlines to do battle for the comely Princess Leia, and to save her from the evil machinations of Lord Darth Vader. Darth Vader got away in the battle of the Death Star, but what does he have in store for our hero? Luke stands in this 3 1/4" version with extendible light saber to give Darth a nasty turn! #24192/\$2.95

OBI-WAN KENOBI



Obi-Wan Kenobi action figure
Luke's mentor, Master of the Force, last of the Jedi Knights, Obi-Wan emerges from retirement on Tatooine to help the rebels fight the evil Empire. Obi-Wan comes with removable cape, retractable light saber, 3 1/4" Obi-Wan Kenobi stands ready to battle with Darth Vader. #24188/\$2.95

SEE THREEPIO



See-Threepio action figure
Protecting his way thru the star lanes, he tried keeping his golden body out of cosmic battles. Fate had other plans. He proved his courage again and again. This golden 3 1/4" figure comes with moveable arms and legs. C3PO #24190/\$2.95

ALREADY ANNOUNCED

The stars have come out to play! Eleven of the most exciting action figures from Star Wars have come in from space. Coming at you from Warren with their costumes, weapons and moveable bodies. These action figures will keep you going for hours and hours.

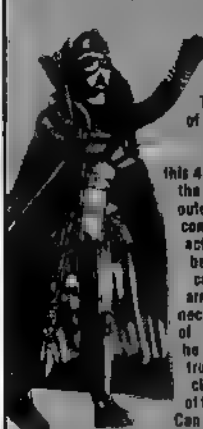
SAND PEOPLE



Sand People action figure
Dread Tusken Raiders pounce on Luke and his new friends. A

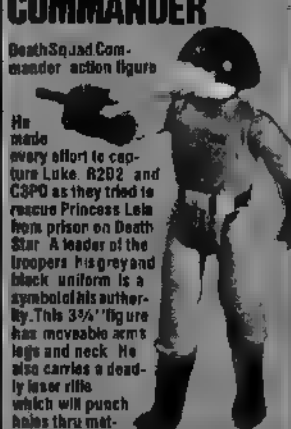
very secretive little known people, no one knows if they're human! They exist on the fringes of Empire as a scavenger race and are not registered on any Imperial census! Have Gaderaff sticks, are 3 1/4" high, with moveable arms, legs, and neck, and have a detachable cape. #24205/\$2.95

DARTH VADER



Darth Vader action figure
The dark lord of space comes in sinister glory in this 4 1/4" replica of the prince of the outer darkness comes with retractable laser saber, removable cape, moveable arms, legs, and neck. The mission of the emperor, he escaped destruction in the climactic battle of the Death Star. Can good come of it? #24189/\$2.95

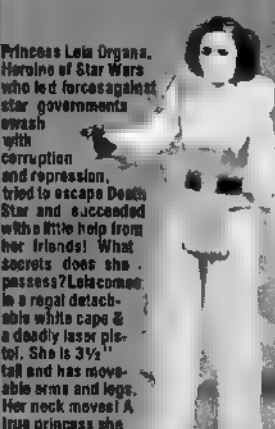
DEATH SQUAD COMMANDER



Death Squad Commander action figure

He made every effort to capture Luke, R2D2 and C3PO as they tried to rescue Princess Leia from prison on Death Star. A leader of the troopers his grey and black uniform is a symbol of his authority. This 3 1/4" figure has moveable arms, legs and neck. He also carries a deadly laser rifle which will punch holes thru metal! #24204/\$2.95

PRINCESS LEIA



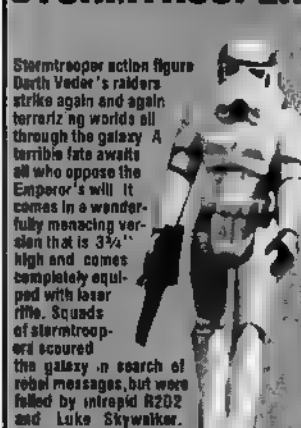
Princess Leia Organa
Heroine of Star Wars who led forces against star governments' evash with corruption and repression, tried to escape Death Star and succeeded with little help from her friends! What secrets does she possess? Leia comes in a regal detachable white cape & a deadly laser pistol. She is 3 1/4" tall and has moveable arms and legs. Her neck moves! A true princess she is! #24194/\$2.95

ARTOO DETOO



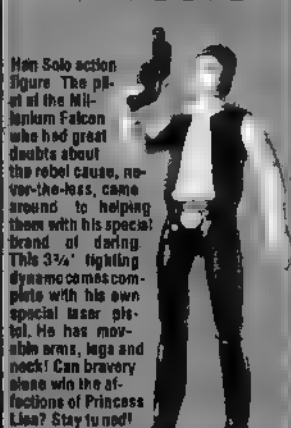
Artoo Detoo action figure
Star Wars dynamic droid sets out to deliver a secret message to Princess Leia. Whizzing his way thru thick and thin this 2 1/4" R2D2 comes with moveable legs and a chrome head that clicks when it's turned! From the deserts of Tatooine to the depths of space R2D2's will spurred all rebels to win! #24189/\$2.95

STORMTROOPER



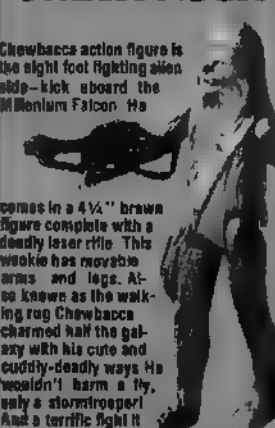
Stormtrooper action figure
Darth Vader's raiders strike again and again terrorizing worlds all through the galaxy. A terrible fate awaits all who oppose the Emperor's will. It comes in a wonderfully menacing version that is 3 1/4" high and comes completely equipped with laser rifle. Squads of stormtroopers scoured the galaxy in search of rebel messages, but were foiled by intrepid R2D2 and Luke Skywalker. Beware! #24193/\$2.95

HAN SOLO



Han Solo action figure
The pilot of the Millennium Falcon who had great doubts about the rebel cause, nevertheless, came around to helping them with his special brand of daring. This 3 1/4" fighting dynamic comes complete with his own special laser pistol. He has moveable arms, legs and neck! Can bravery alone win the affections of Princess Leia? Stay tuned! #24195/\$2.95

CHEWBACCA

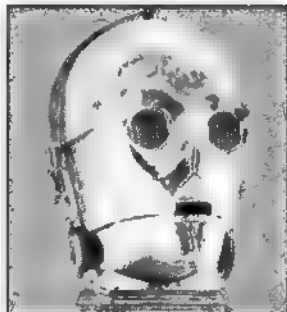


Chewbacca action figure
is the eight foot fighting alien side-kick aboard the Millennium Falcon. He comes in a 4 1/4" brown figure complete with a deadly laser rifle. This weekee has moveable arms and legs. As we know as the walking rug Chewbacca charmed half the galaxy with his cute and cuddly-deadly ways. He wouldn't harm a fly, only a stormtrooper! And a terrific fight it was! #24191/\$2.95

STAR WARS MAIL ORDER STORE

SPECTACULAR WHOLE HEAD STAR WARS MASKS

C-3 PO MASK



C3PO MASK! Soft vinyl full over the head hand painted gleaming gold mask of C3PO! #25005/\$26.95

STORMTROOPER MASK



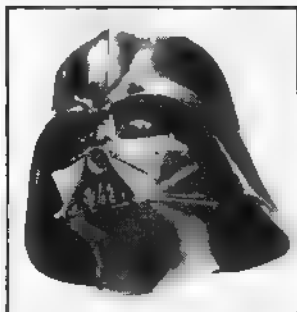
STORMTROOPER MASK! Gleaming white rigid plastic mask with see through plastic eyes. #25006/\$43.95

CHEWBACCA MASK

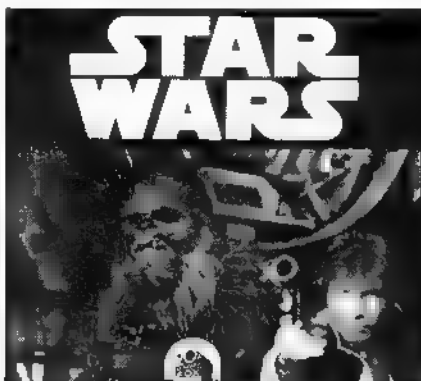


CHEWBACCA MASK! Realistic soft latex over the head fur mask with hand applied fur. #25007/\$37.95

DARTH VADER MASK



DARTH VADER MASK! Shining black rigid plastic full-helmet/mask of the evil Jedi! 2 pieces. #25008/\$43.95



SUPER 8 FILMS

The excitement! The drama of STAR WARS can be yours! Now view selected scenes from the year's best movie in your own home. BLACK AND WHITE SUPER 8 SILENT FILM WITH SUB-TITLES #22121/\$9.95!

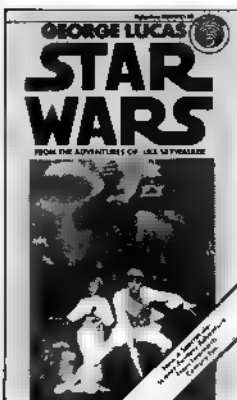
COLOR SILENT
SUPER 8
#22123/\$18.95

COLOR SUPER 8 FILM
WITH SOUND
#22122/\$31.50



DOUBLE RECORD

STAR WARS ALBUM Now Warren offers you the most spell-binding music from the movie that does it all. Star Wars' incredible sound track is brought back alive. This two record long playing, stereo album with its pulse-pounding music rockets into orbit permanently. This hottest selling album is guaranteed to go fast. #2387/\$9.95



STAR WARS PAPERBACK BOOK

STAR WARS NOVEL by the film's Writer/director George Lucas! Read this exciting book and relive the movie's incredible adventure! This spellbinding 220 page paperback has a special section with 16 pages of thrilling full color scenes from the fantastic movie! #21262/\$1.95



STAR WARS FULL COLOR POSTER

THE SWORD POSTER Paste this big 20"x28" poster on the wall for inspiration. A painting by Hildebrandt, it has Luke & Leia rendered in golden hues with a formidable Darth Vader glaring from the sky. C-3PO & R2D2 are there! Full, color! #2990/\$2.00



FIGHTERS

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#2748 SIZE 14 BOYS/\$4.75
#2749 MEN'S SMALL \$4.95



ROBOTS

#2756 SIZE 10 BOYS/\$4.75
#2757 SIZE 14 BOYS/\$4.75
#2758 MEN'S SMALL \$4.95



SWORD

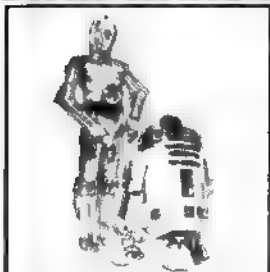
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#2751 SIZE 14 BOYS/\$4.75
#2752 MEN'S SMALL \$4.95



C-3PO & LUKE

#2753 SIZE 10 BOYS/\$4.75
#2754 SIZE 14 BOYS/\$4.75
#2755 MEN'S SMALL \$4.95

STAR WARS BEACH TOWELS



TWO ROBOTS BEACH TOWEL Rest easy at the beach with C-3PO and R2-D2. Robot figures printed in full color on 100% cotton velour background. Towel hemmed and measures 31"x60" #26052/\$6.00



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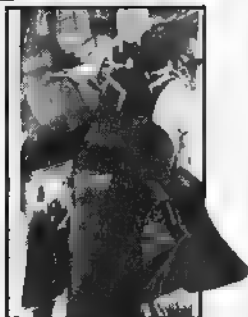
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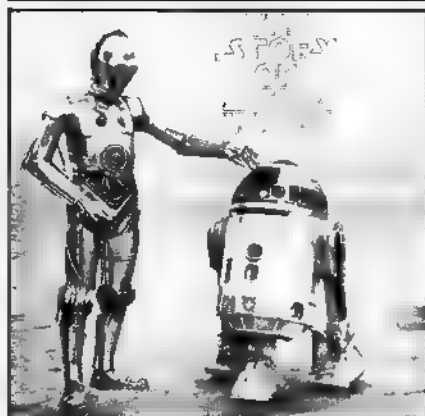


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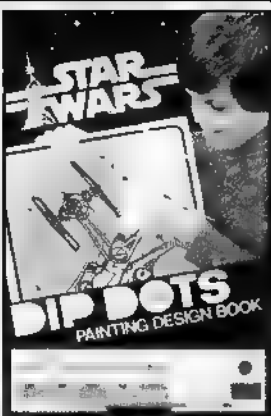
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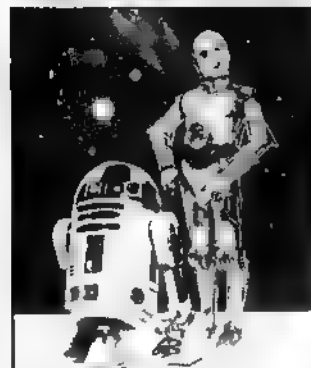
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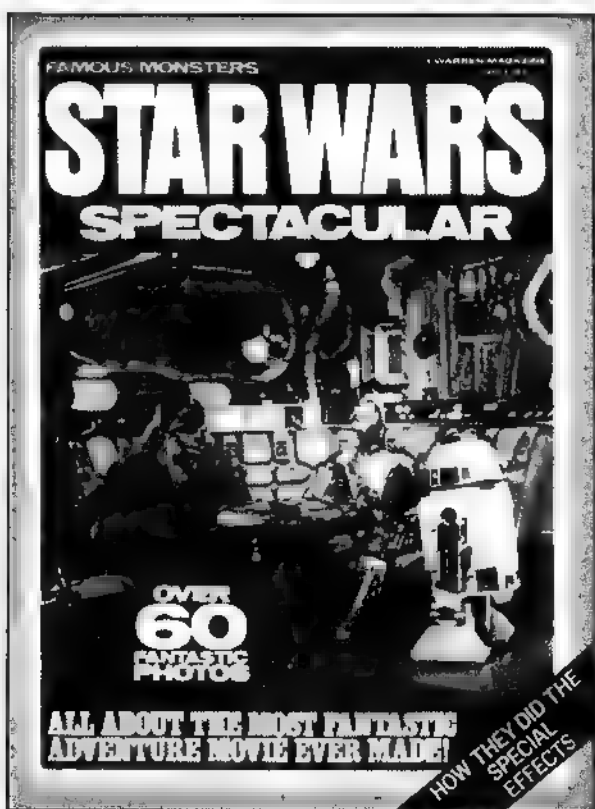


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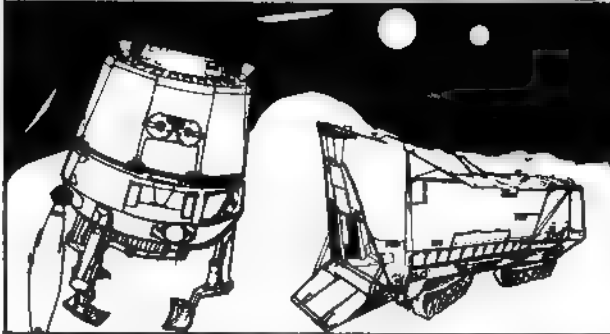
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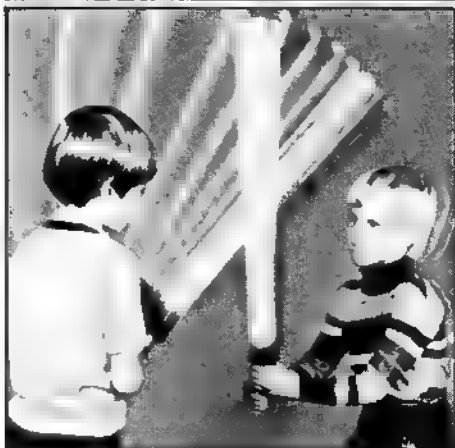
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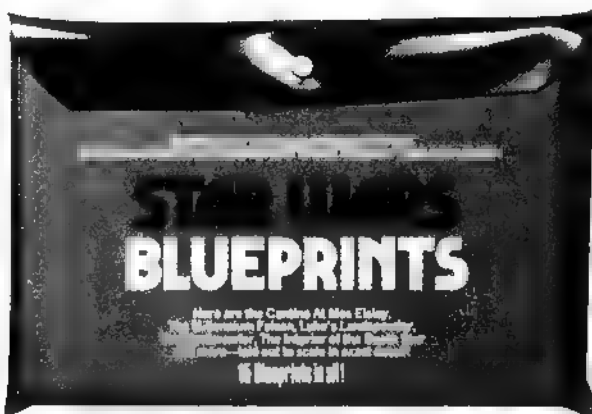


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Volume 1, Number 1
Fall 1969

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
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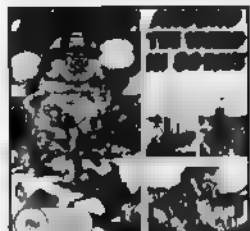
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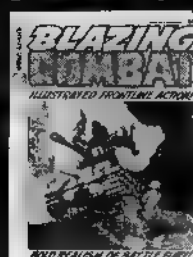
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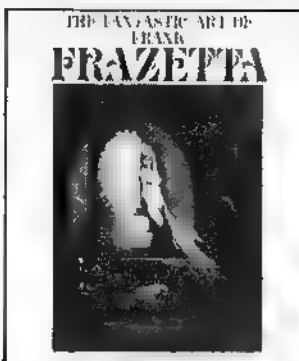


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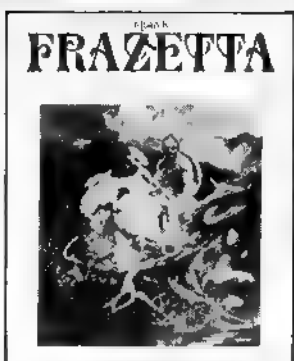
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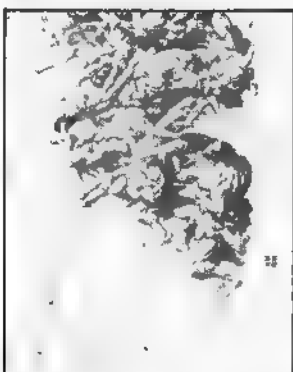
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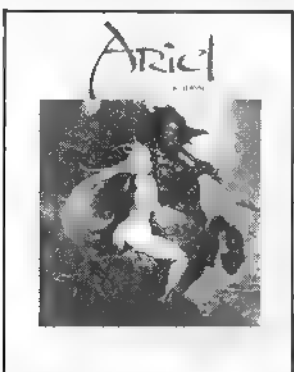
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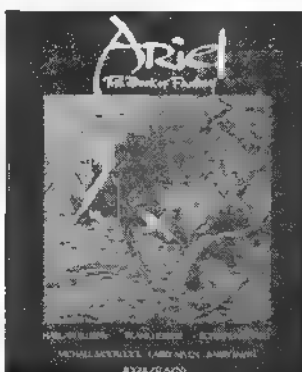
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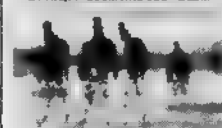
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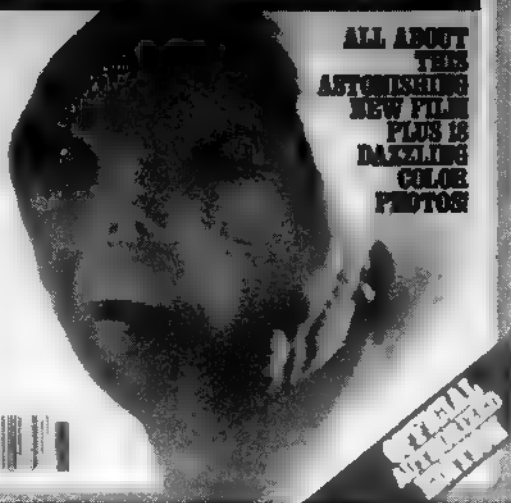


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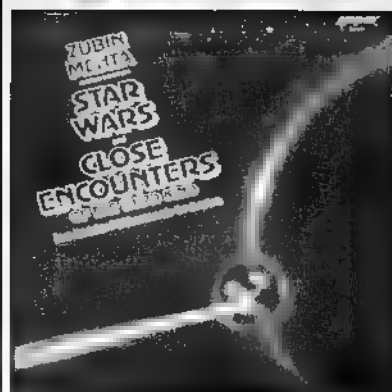
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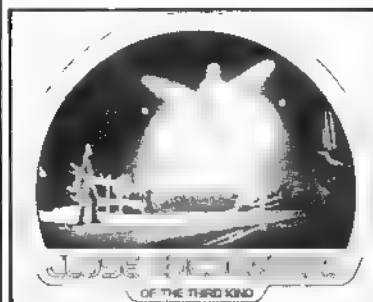
MOTHER SHIP IRON-ON

Full-color, brilliantly lit scene of the exit of the fabulous extra-terrestrial Mother Ship. Barry in the foreground watches as the spacecraft lifts from earth-bound gravity and heads for the stars. Iron-on vibrant with reds, blues, and golds. #28054/\$1.25



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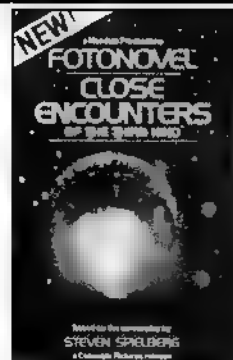
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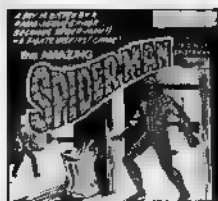
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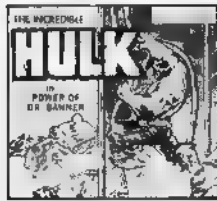
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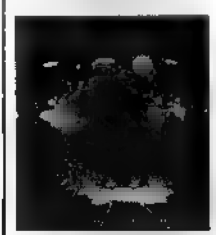
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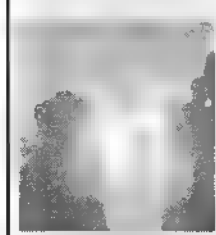
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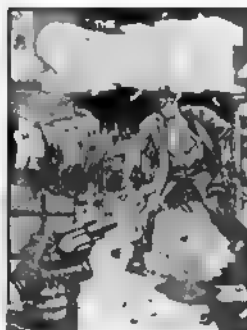
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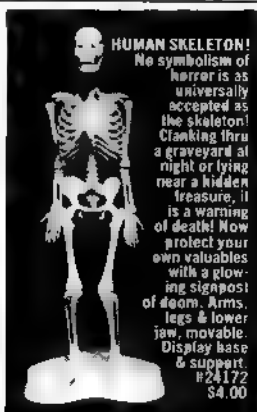
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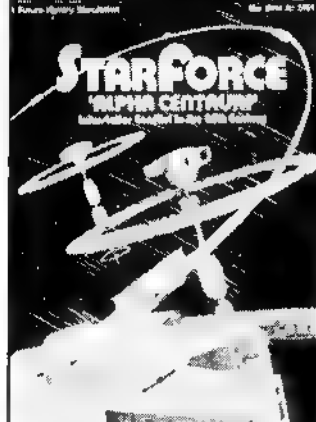
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THE LORD OF THE RINGS

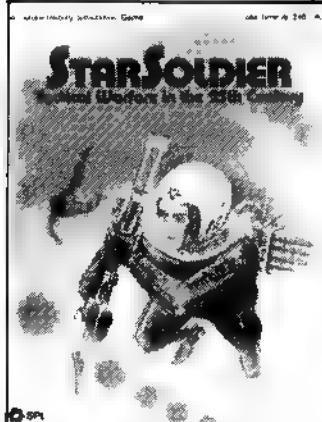


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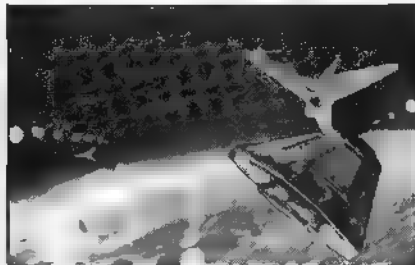
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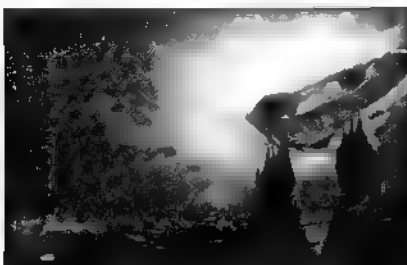
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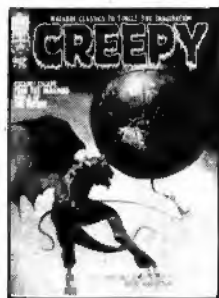
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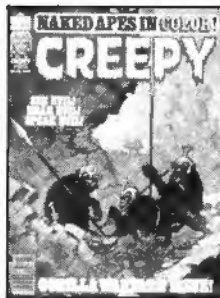


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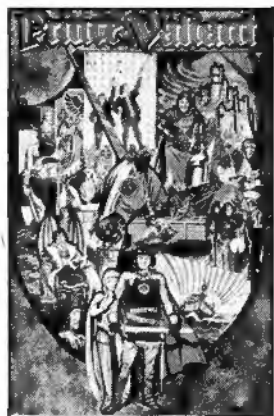
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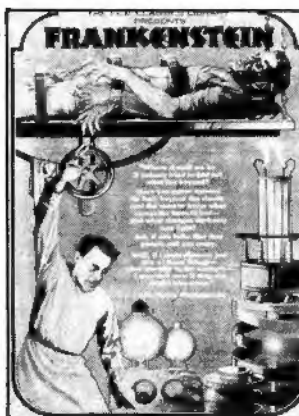
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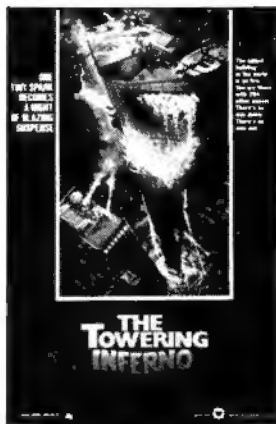
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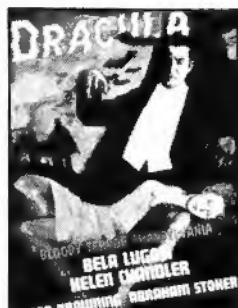
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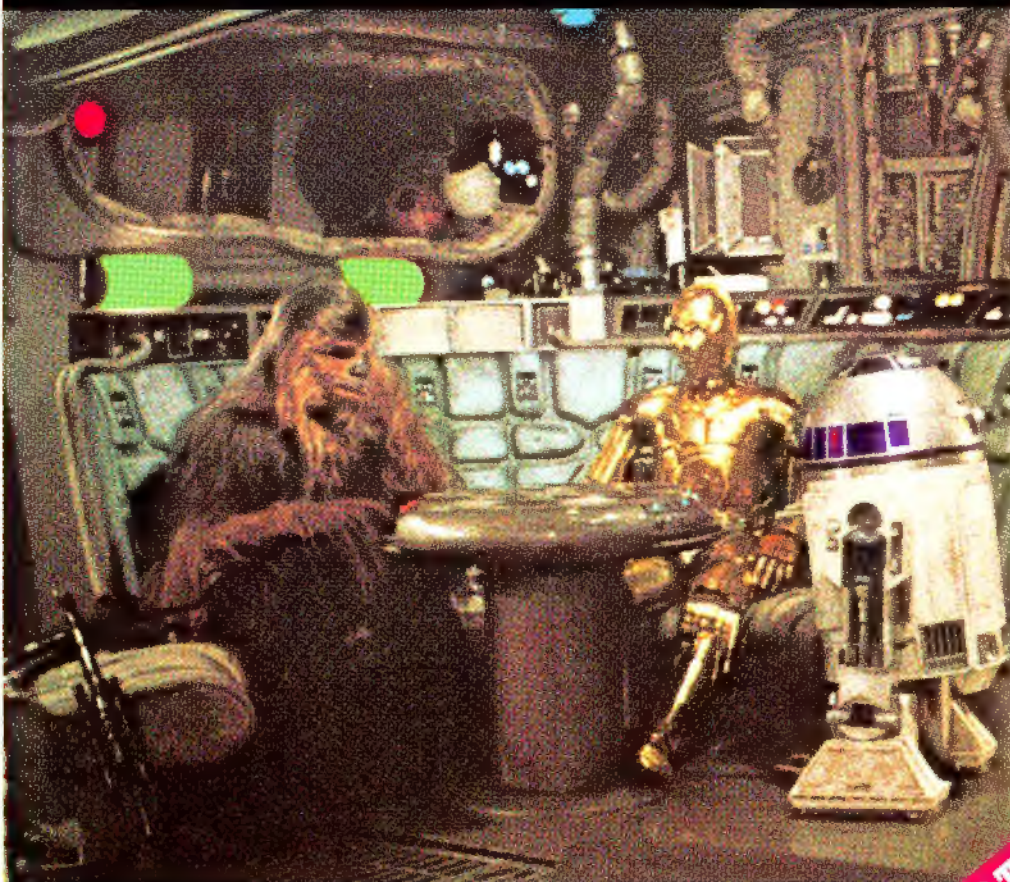
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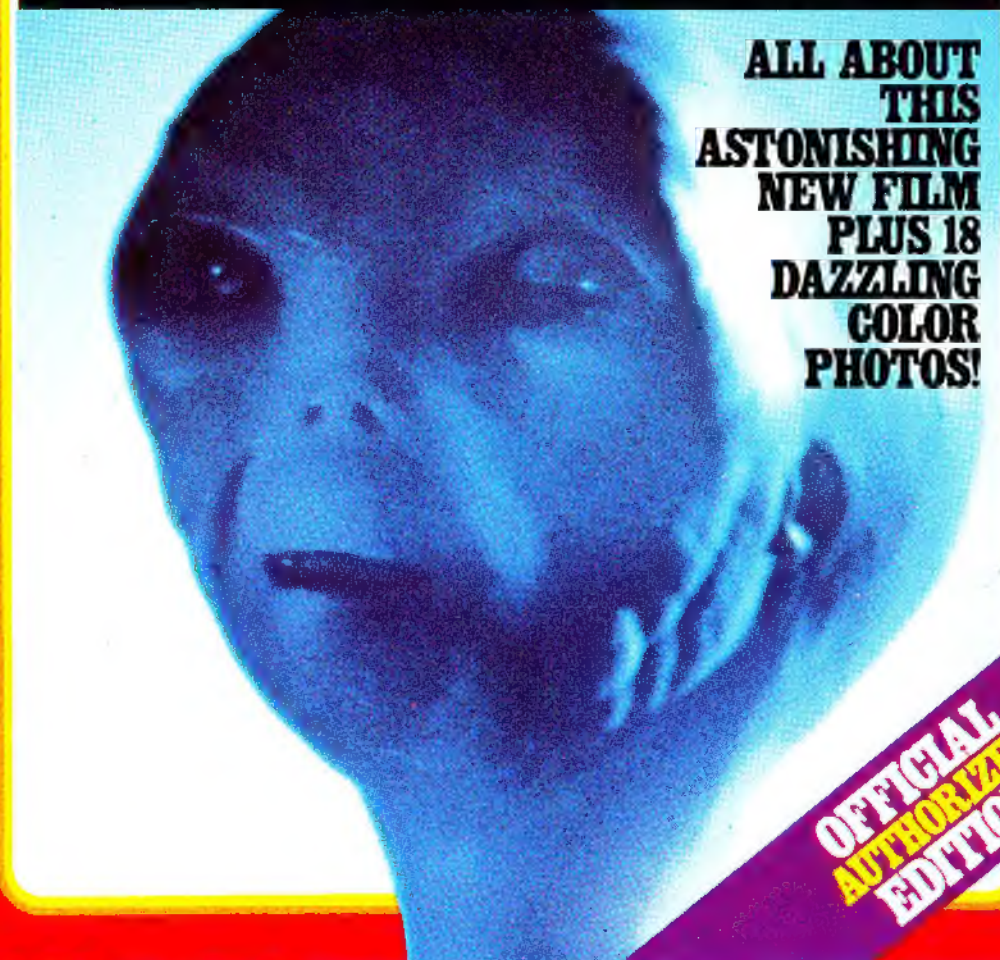
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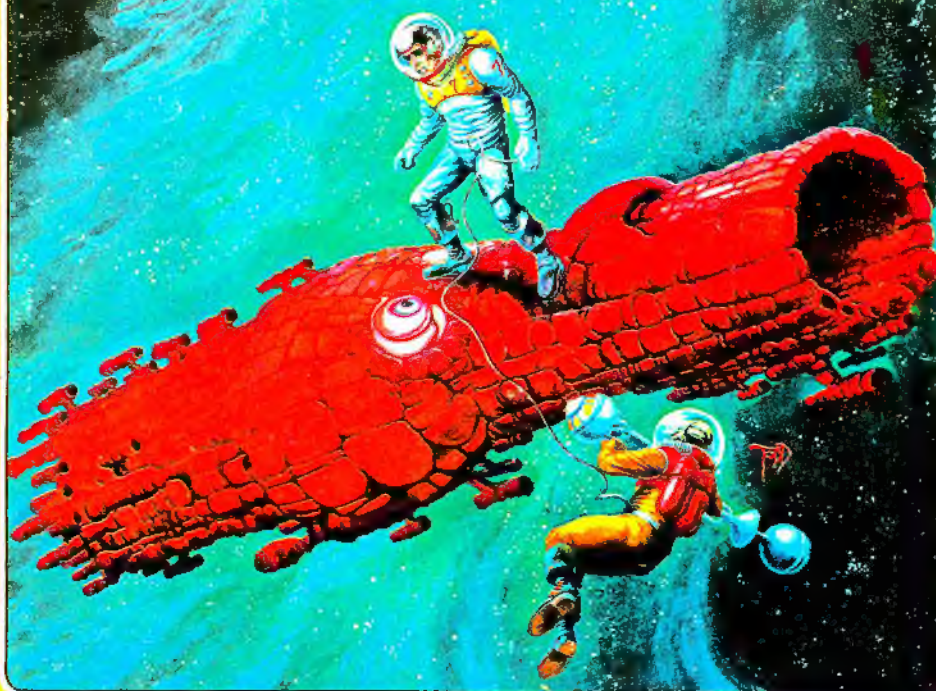
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